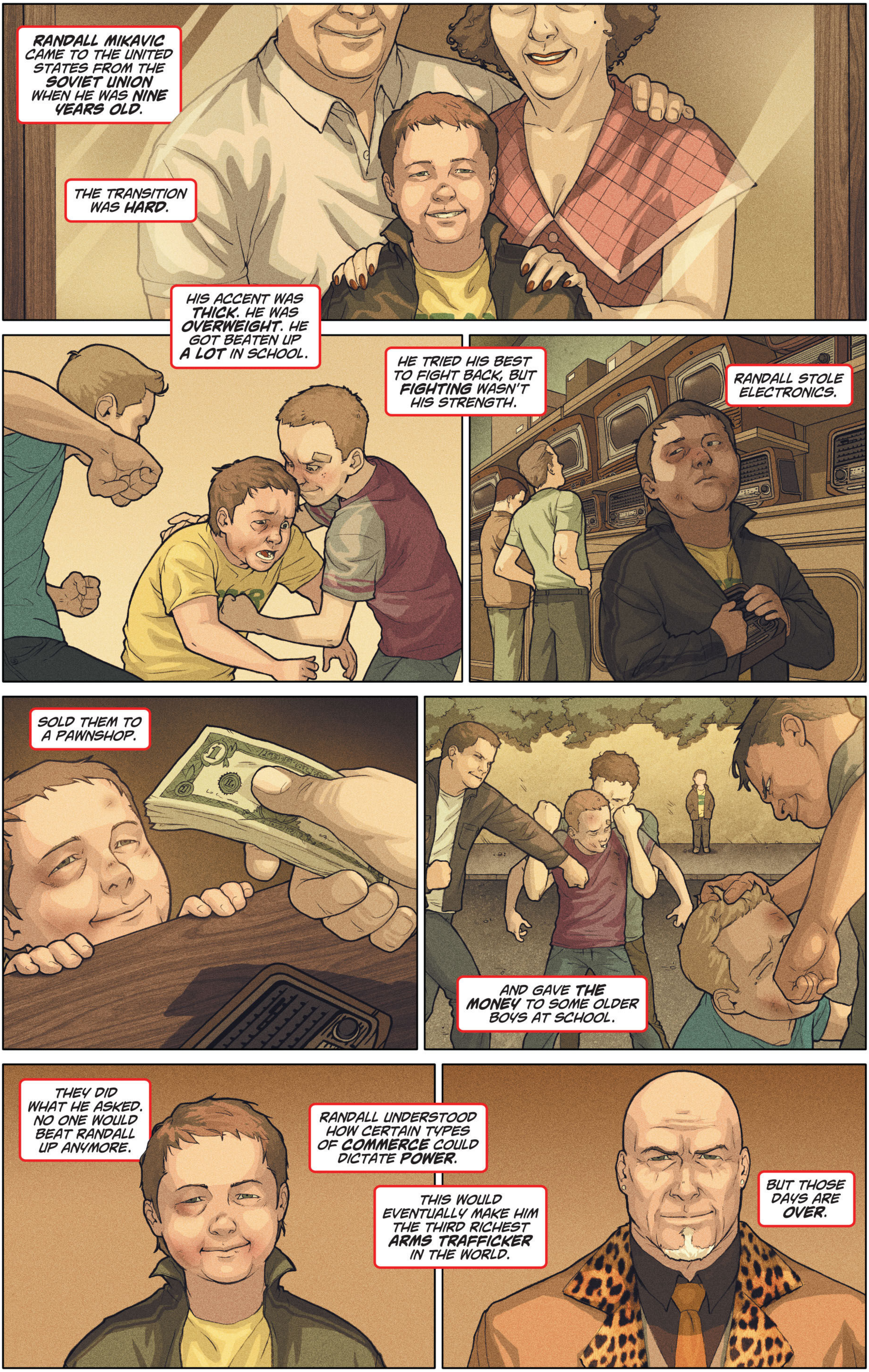
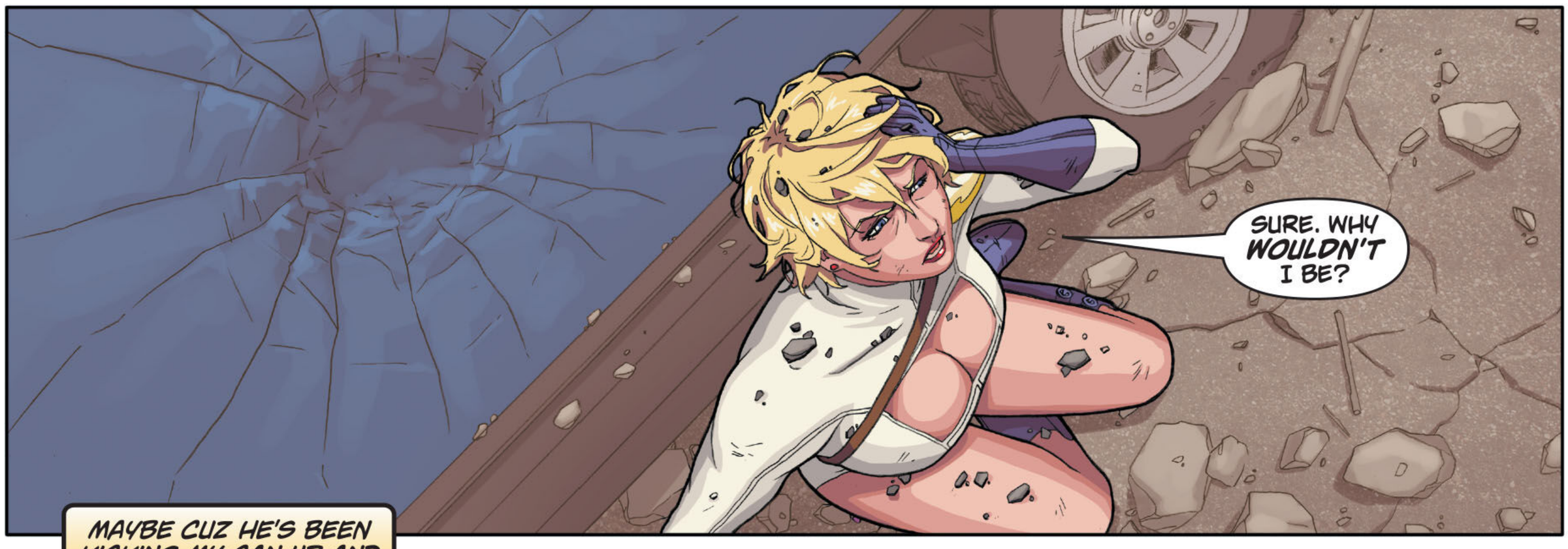
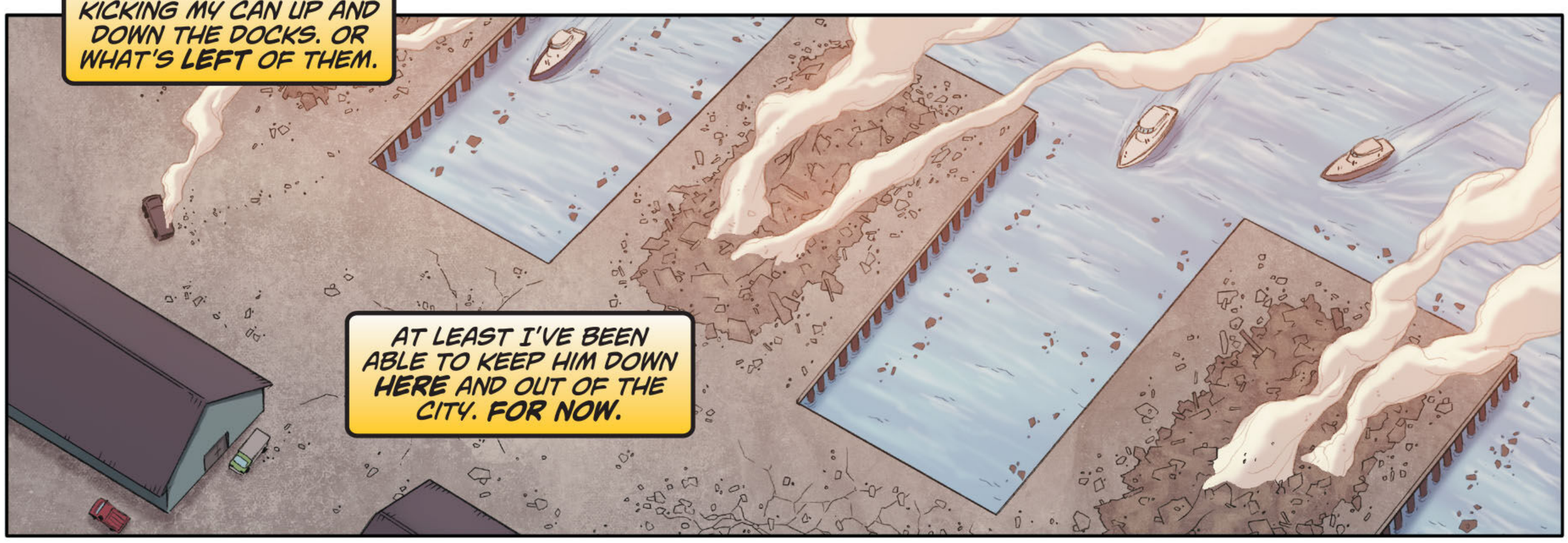
DC
15
WINICK • BASRI
POWER GIRL
CRASH COURSE!
OCT 2010 DCCOMICS.COM

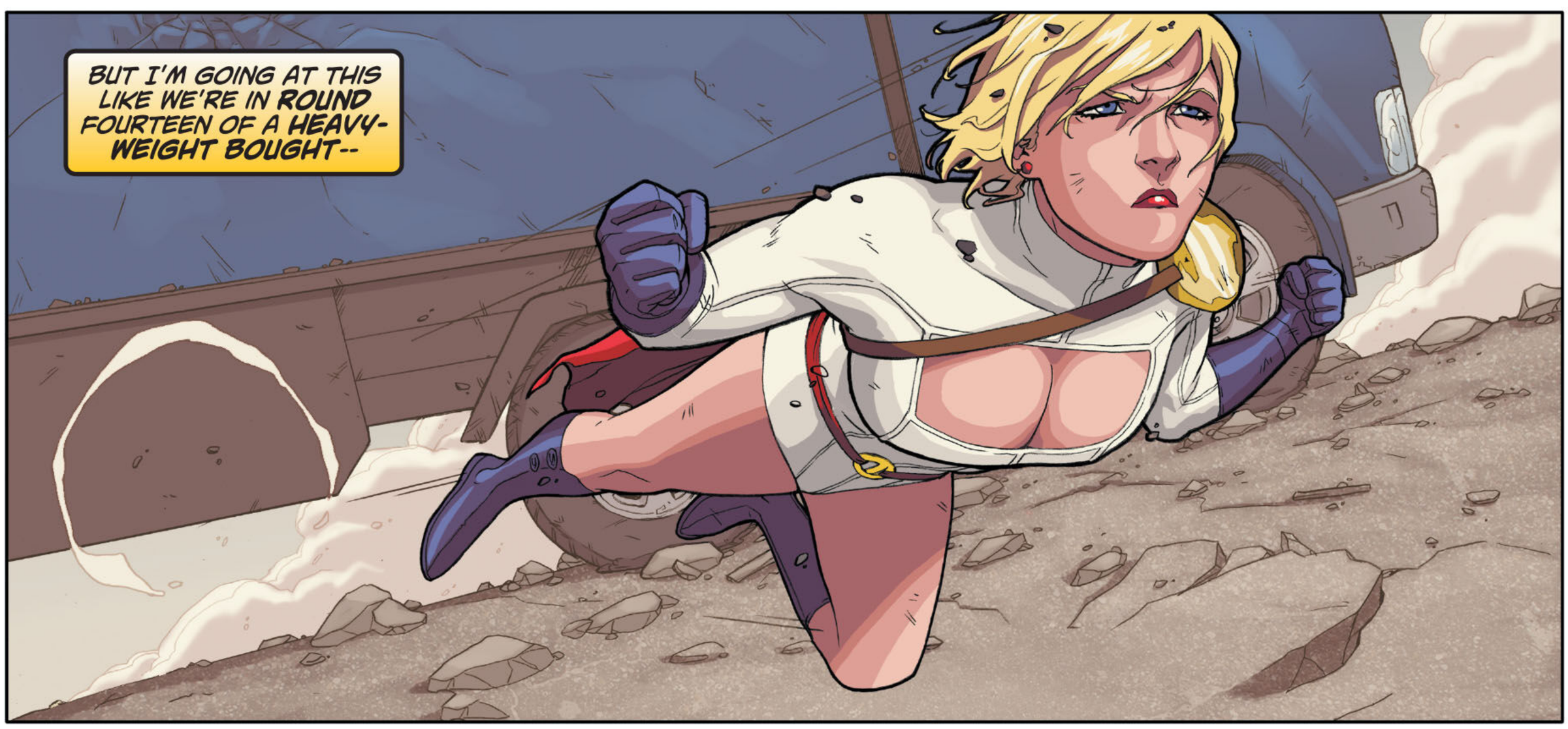

RANDALL MIKAVIC CAME TO THE UNITED STATES FROM THE SOVIET UNION WHEN HE WAS NINE YEARS OLD.
THE TRANSITION WAS HARD.
HIS ACCENT WAS THICK. HE WAS OVERWEIGHT. HE GOT BEATEN UP A LOT IN SCHOOL.
HE TRIED HIS BEST TO FIGHT BACK, BUT FIGHTING WASN'T HIS STRENGTH.
RANDALL STOLE ELECTRONICS.
SOLD THEM TO A PAWNSHOP.
AND GAVE THE MONEY TO SOME OLDER BOYS AT SCHOOL.
THEY DID WHAT HE ASKED. NO ONE WOULD BEAT RANDALL UP ANYMORE.
RANDALL UNDERSTOOD HOW CERTAIN TYPES OF COMMERCE COULD DICTATE POWER.
THIS WOULD EVENTUALLY MAKE HIM THE THIRD RICHEST ARMS TRAFFICKER IN THE WORLD.
BUT THOSE DAYS ARE OVER.

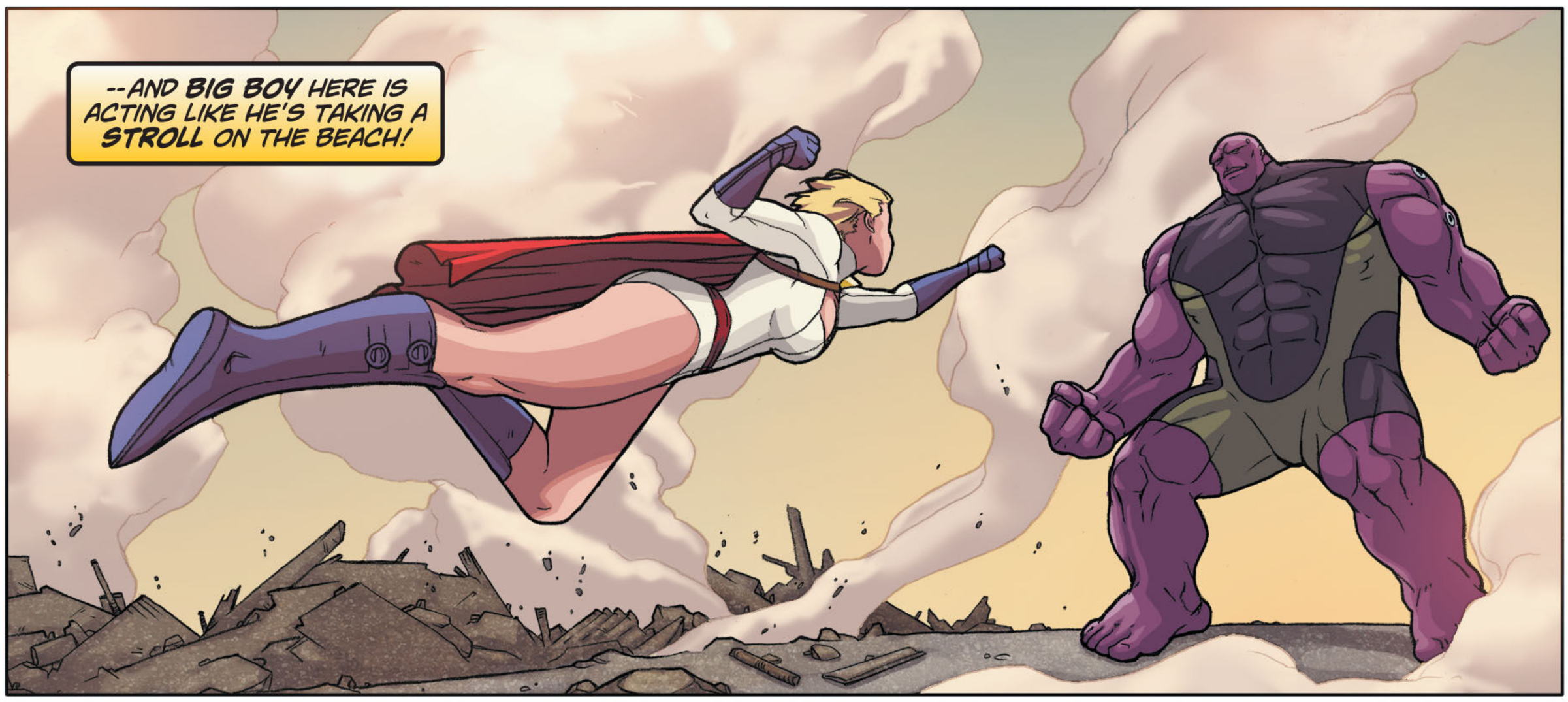
BOMB SQUAD
PART TWO
WRITTEN BY JUDD WINICK
ART & COVER BY SAMI BASRI
LETTERS BY JOHN J. HILL
COLORS BY SUNNY GHO
ASSOCIATE EDITOR RACHEL GLUCKSTERN
EDITOR MIKE CARLIN
AND NOW, RANDALL MIKAVIC KNOWS HOW TO FIGHT.
BUT HE'S NOT EXACTLY RANDALL MIKAVIC ANYMORE.
I FEEL GOOD.
I FEEL VERY GOOD. THERE'S A THOUSAND KINDS OF NOISE RUNNING THROUGH MY MELON RIGHT NOW...
PROTOCOLS. COMPUTER CODE. COMMANDS. PROBABILITIES. STRATAGEMS.
BUT MOSTLY, IT'S THIS ENORMOUS RUSH OF ASS-KICKING, DESTRUCTIVE POWER.

IT USED TO TAKE EIGHT PROSTITUTES, A WEEK IN VEGAS, AND CLOSING A FIVE MILLION DOLLAR DEAL TO FEEL THIS GOOD.
I LIKE THIS.
HOW ABOUT YOU, HOT PANTS? Y'FEELING OKAY?

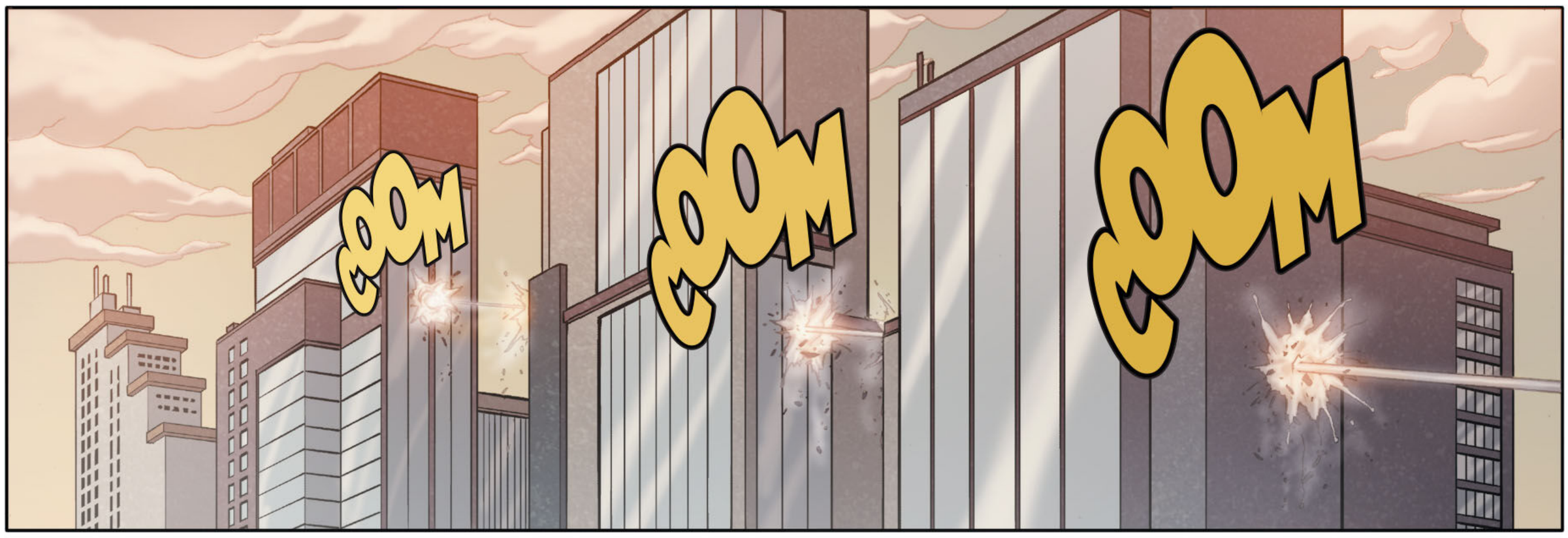

SURE. WHY WOULDN'T I BE?


MAYBE CUZ HE'S BEEN KICKING MY CAN UP AND DOWN THE DOCKS. OR WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM.
AT LEAST I'VE BEEN ABLE TO KEEP HIM DOWN HERE AND OUT OF THE CITY. FOR NOW.


BUT I'M GOING AT THIS LIKE WE'RE IN ROUND FOURTEEN OF A HEAVY-WEIGHT BOUGHT--


--AND BIG BOY HERE IS ACTING LIKE HE'S TAKING A STROLL ON THE BEACH!

AND, BOY-HOWDY, DOES HE EVER SEEM TO BE ENJOYING HIMSELF.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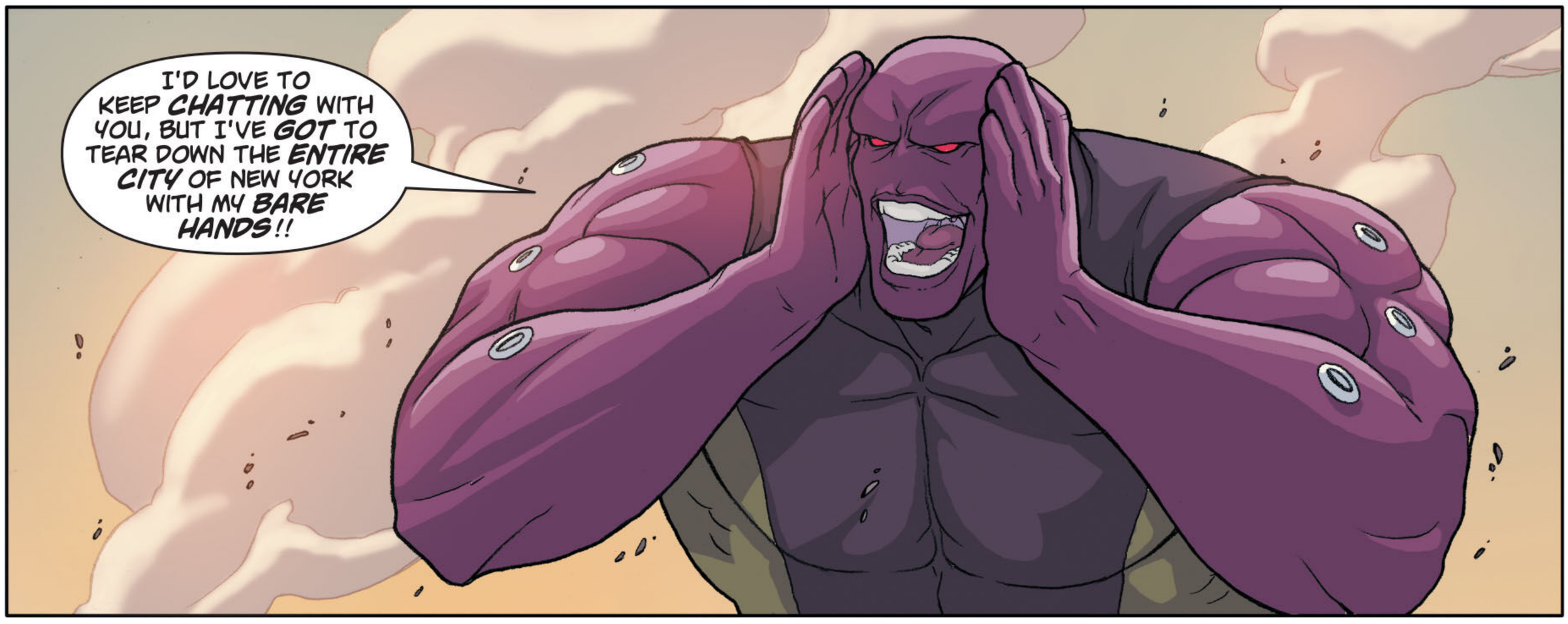
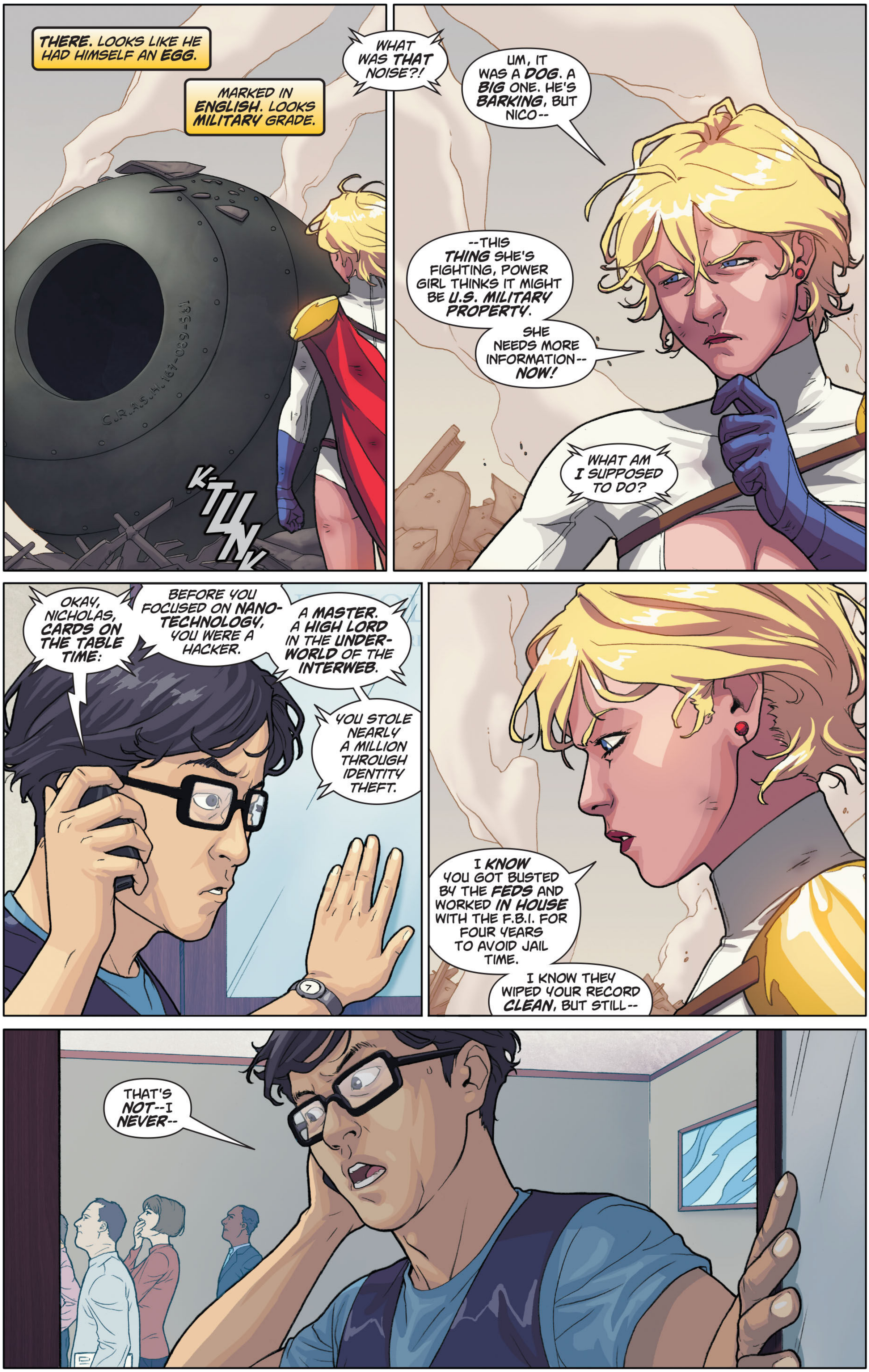
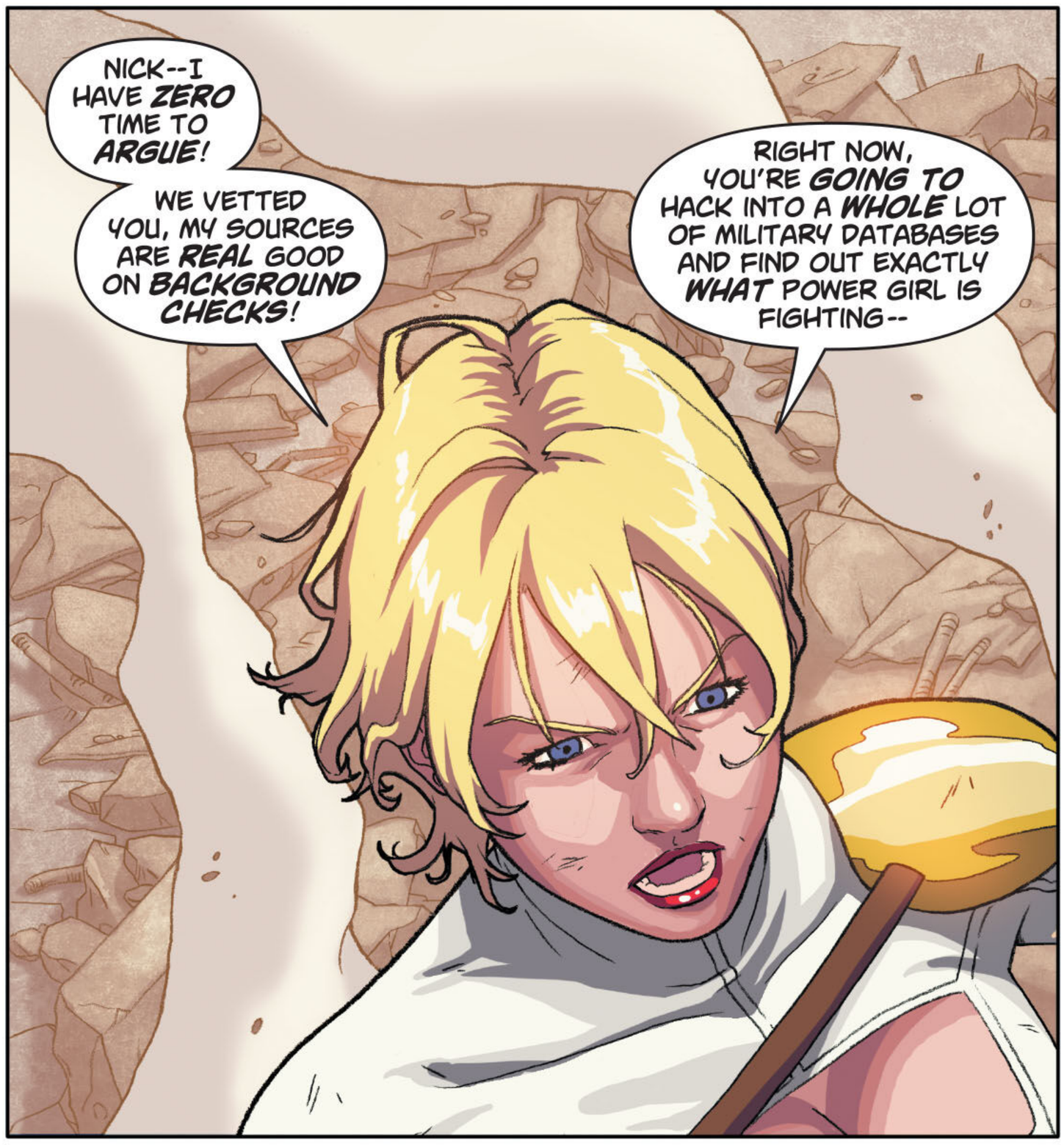
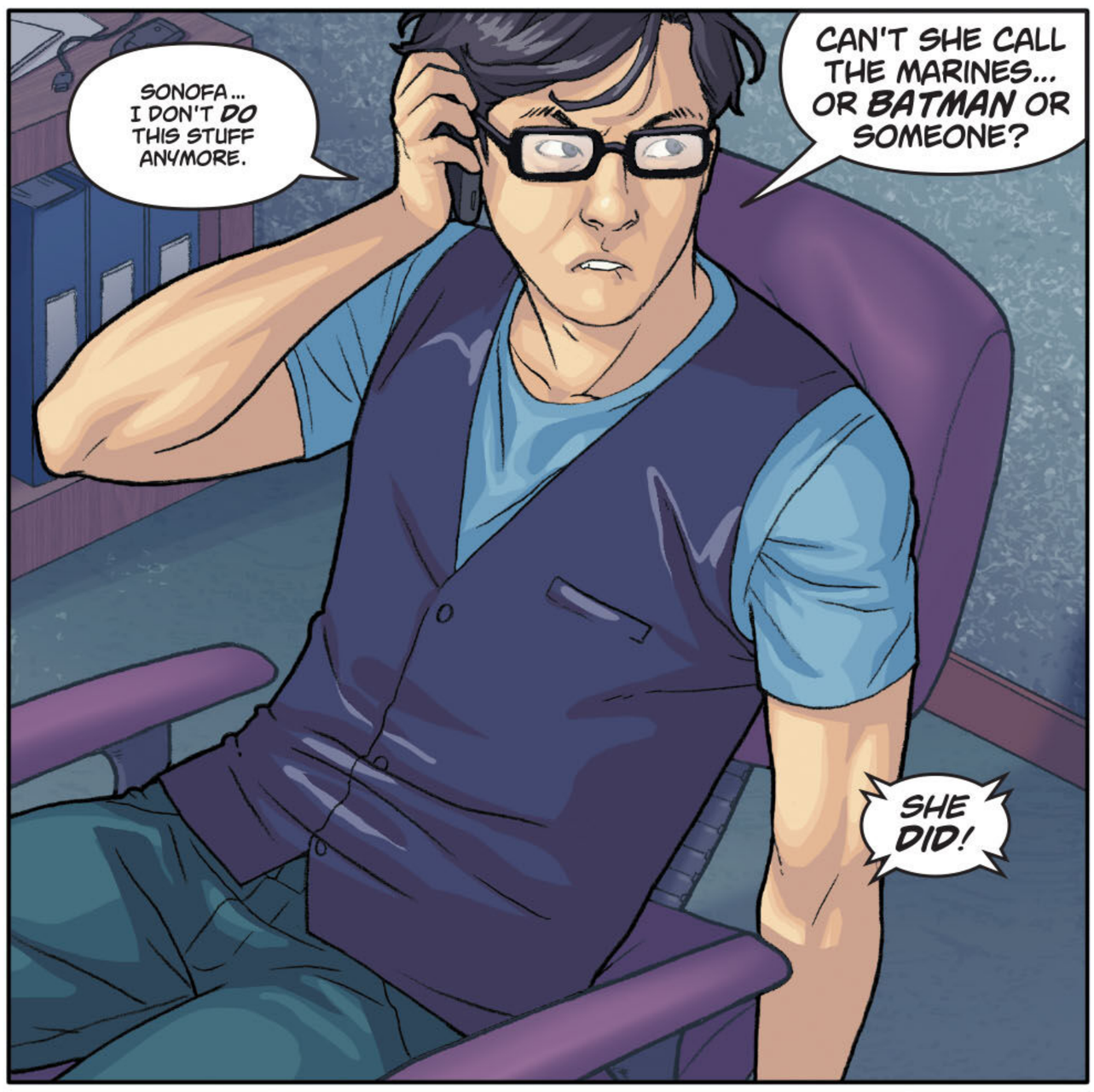

I'D LOVE TO KEEP CHATTING WITH YOU, BUT I'VE GOT TO TEAR DOWN THE ENTIRE CITY OF NEW YORK WITH MY BARE HANDS!!

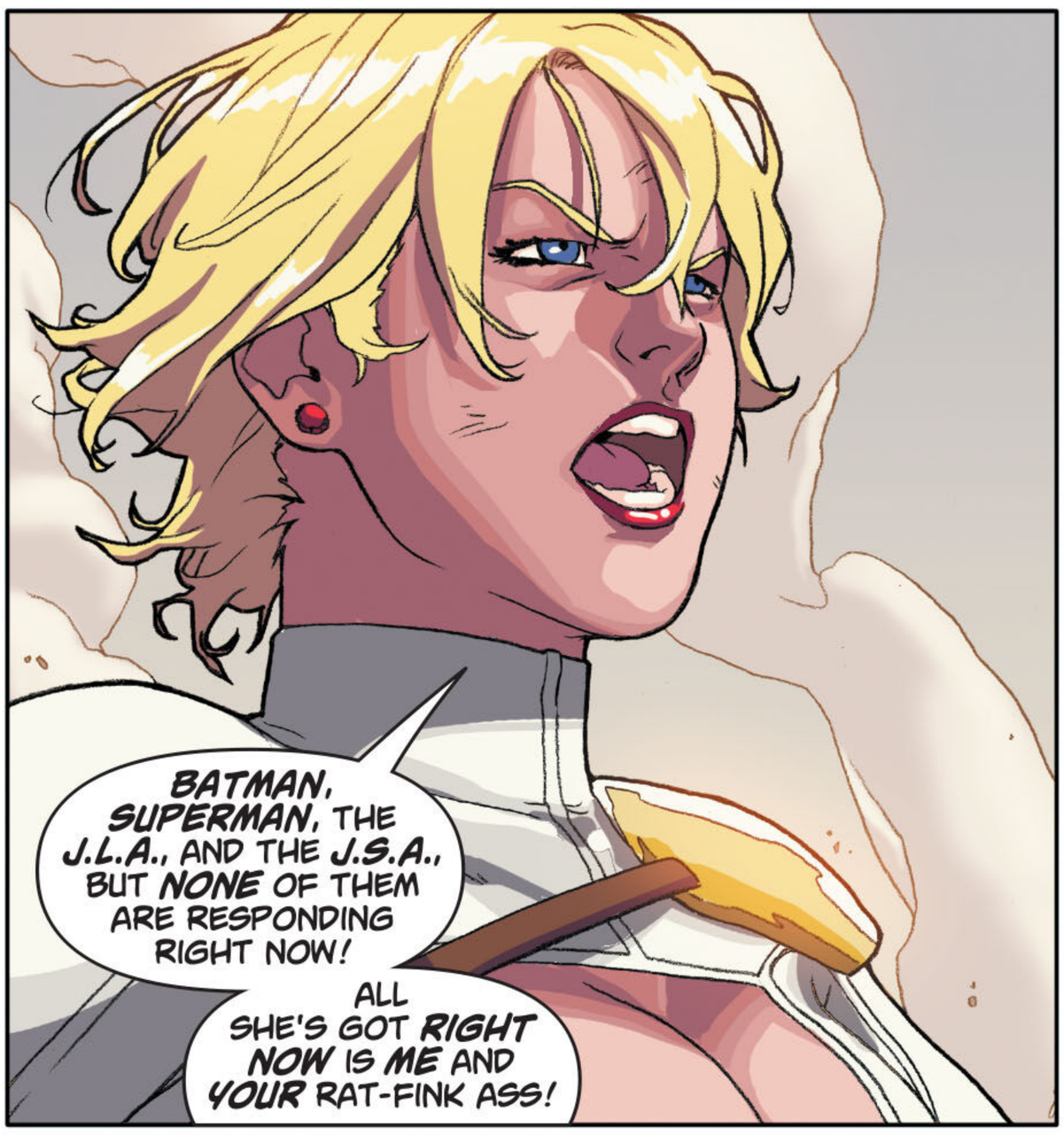
OW.
'KAY. I'M NOT MAKING A LOT OF HEADWAY HERE.
I'M JUST BARELY HOLDING MY OWN ON THE GROUND WAR.
TIME TO WORK ON SOME INTEL.
DEET
CALL: NICHOLAS CHO.
STARRWARE INDUSTRIES.
YES, WE KNOW ABOUT THE ANGRY PURPLE GIANT! IT'S ALL OVER THE NEWS!
THEY SAID THAT POWER GIRL SEEMS TO BE SLOWING IT UP!
ANC
WE'RE WATCHING IT AS THE BANK OFFICERS ARE SHUTTING DOWN YOUR COMPANY!
KAREN, ARE YOU OKAY?! WHERE ARE YOU?!
I'M FINE, NICHOLAS! I'M-- I'M STUCK DOWN-TOWN!
BUT, SPEAKING OF POWER GIRL, I NEED YOU TO DO HER A FAVOR!
WHAT? POWER GIRL? HOW CAN WE HELP HER?!
OKAY, THIS IS WHERE BARNEY, THE PURPLE KILLING MACHINE, FIRST HOPPED INTO ACTION.
WELL, I TOLD YOU ALL THAT WE'RE FRIENDS! SHE REACHED OUT TO ME FOR SOME INTEL!
HANG ON A SEC', OKAY?
BIG MAN ORIGINALLY SHOWED UP ALL SKINNY, CONFUSED, AND CUSSING LIKE A SAILOR.
I'M GONNA GUESS THAT WAS HIS "LARVAE" STAGE, AND IF THAT WAS THE CASE THEN--


THERE. LOOKS LIKE HE HAD HIMSELF AN EGG.
MARKED IN ENGLISH. LOOKS MILITARY GRADE.
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?!
K-TUNK
UM, IT WAS A DOG. A BIG ONE. HE'S BARKING, BUT NICO--
--THIS THING SHE'S FIGHTING, POWER GIRL THINKS IT MIGHT BE U.S. MILITARY PROPERTY.
SHE NEEDS MORE INFORMATION--NOW!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
OKAY, NICHOLAS, CARDS ON THE TABLE TIME:
BEFORE YOU FOCUSED ON NANO-TECHNOLOGY, YOU WERE A HACKER.
A MASTER. A HIGH LORD IN THE UNDER-WORLD OF THE INTERWEB.
YOU STOLE NEARLY A MILLION THROUGH IDENTITY THEFT.
I KNOW YOU GOT BUSTED BY THE FEDS AND WORKED IN HOUSE WITH THE F.B.I. FOR FOUR YEARS TO AVOID JAIL TIME.
I KNOW THEY WIPED YOUR RECORD CLEAN, BUT STILL--
THAT'S NOT--I NEVER--


NICK--I HAVE ZERO TIME TO ARGUE!
WE VETTED YOU, MY SOURCES ARE REAL GOOD ON BACKGROUND CHECKS!
RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO HACK INTO A WHOLE LOT OF MILITARY DATABASES AND FIND OUT EXACTLY WHAT POWER GIRL IS FIGHTING--

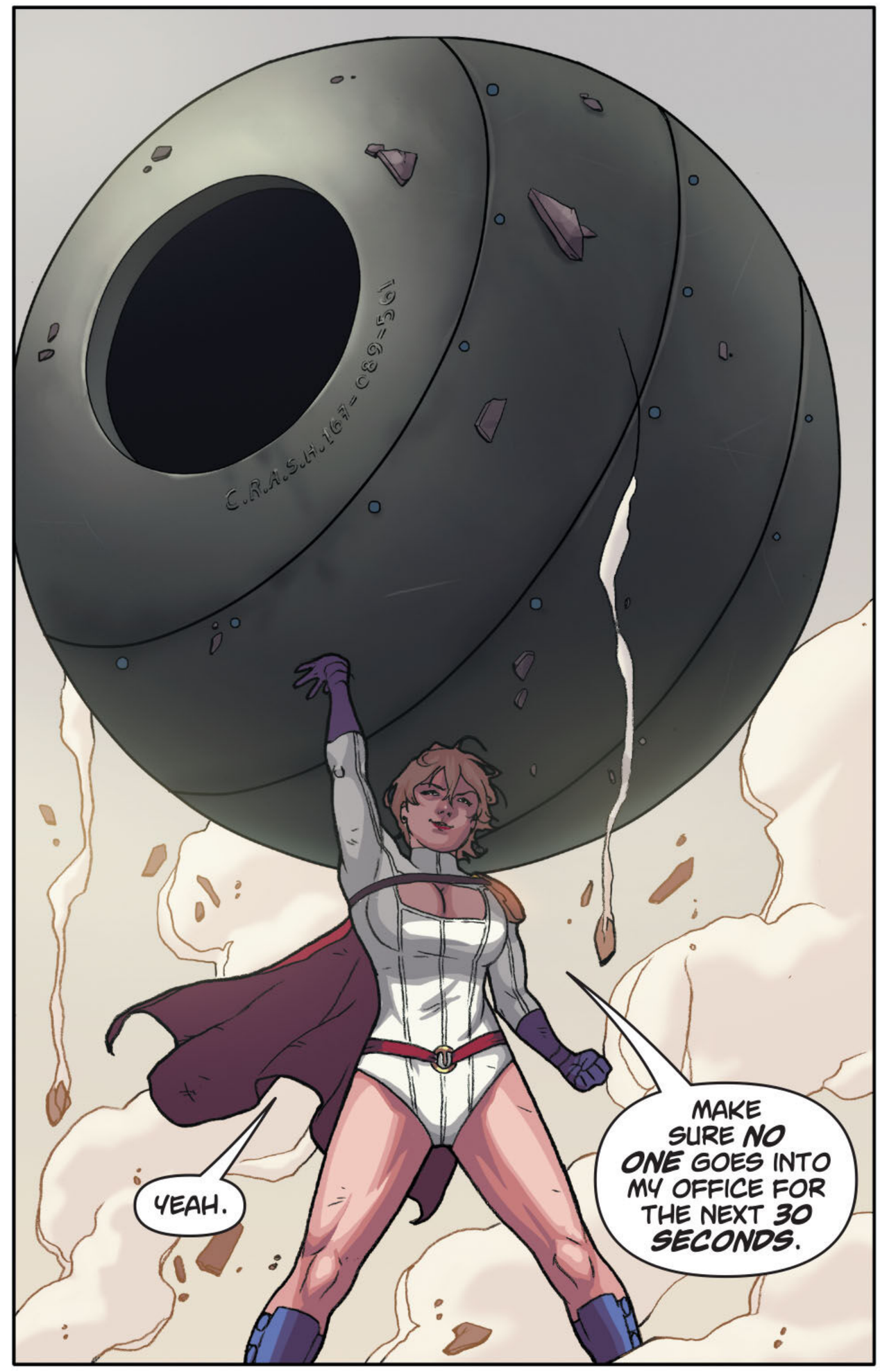
--OR I'M GONNA LEAK THAT YOU WERE A FEDERAL SNITCH ALL OVER THE WEB!!

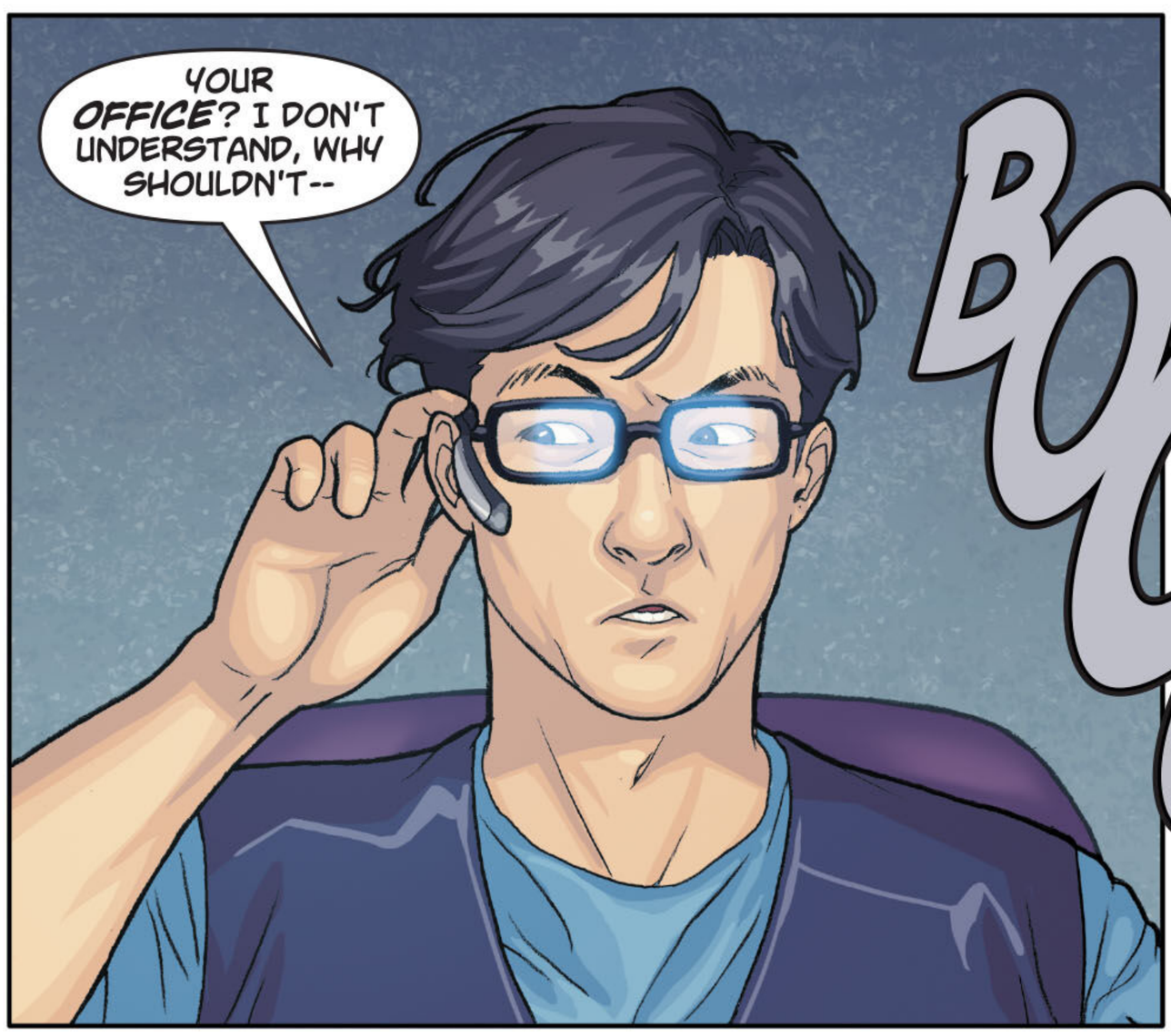

SONOFA... I DON'T DO THIS STUFF ANYMORE.
CAN'T SHE CALL THE MARINES... OR BATMAN OR SOMEONE?
SHE DID!


BATMAN, SUPERMAN, THE J.L.A., AND THE J.S.A., BUT NONE OF THEM ARE RESPONDING RIGHT NOW!
ALL SHE'S GOT RIGHT NOW IS ME AND YOUR RAT-FINK ASS!

SO, GET HER WHAT SHE NEEDS TO KNOW!!
FINE. BUT IF YOUR COMPANY DOESN'T GO UNDER--
--I QUIT.

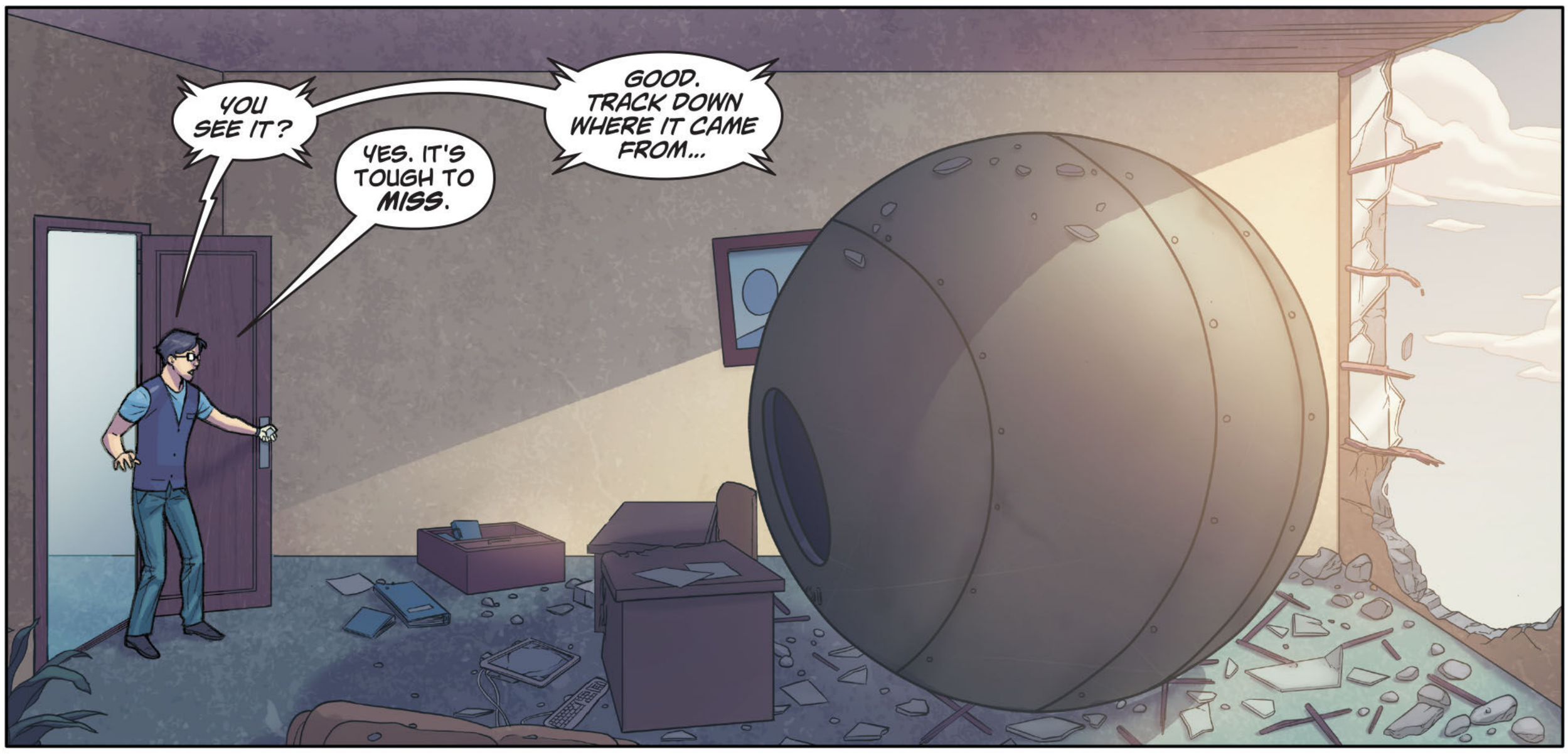
FIRST...I'M GOING TO NEED SOMETHING TO GO ON.
I CAN'T JUST START ROOTING AROUND FOR ANY MENTION OF A GIGANTIC PURPLE MONSTER.
THAT'LL PROBABLY JUST GET ME TO PORN SITES.
HOW ABOUT SOME PHYSICAL EVIDENCE?
YOU HAVE SOME THAT YOU CAN GET TO ME?

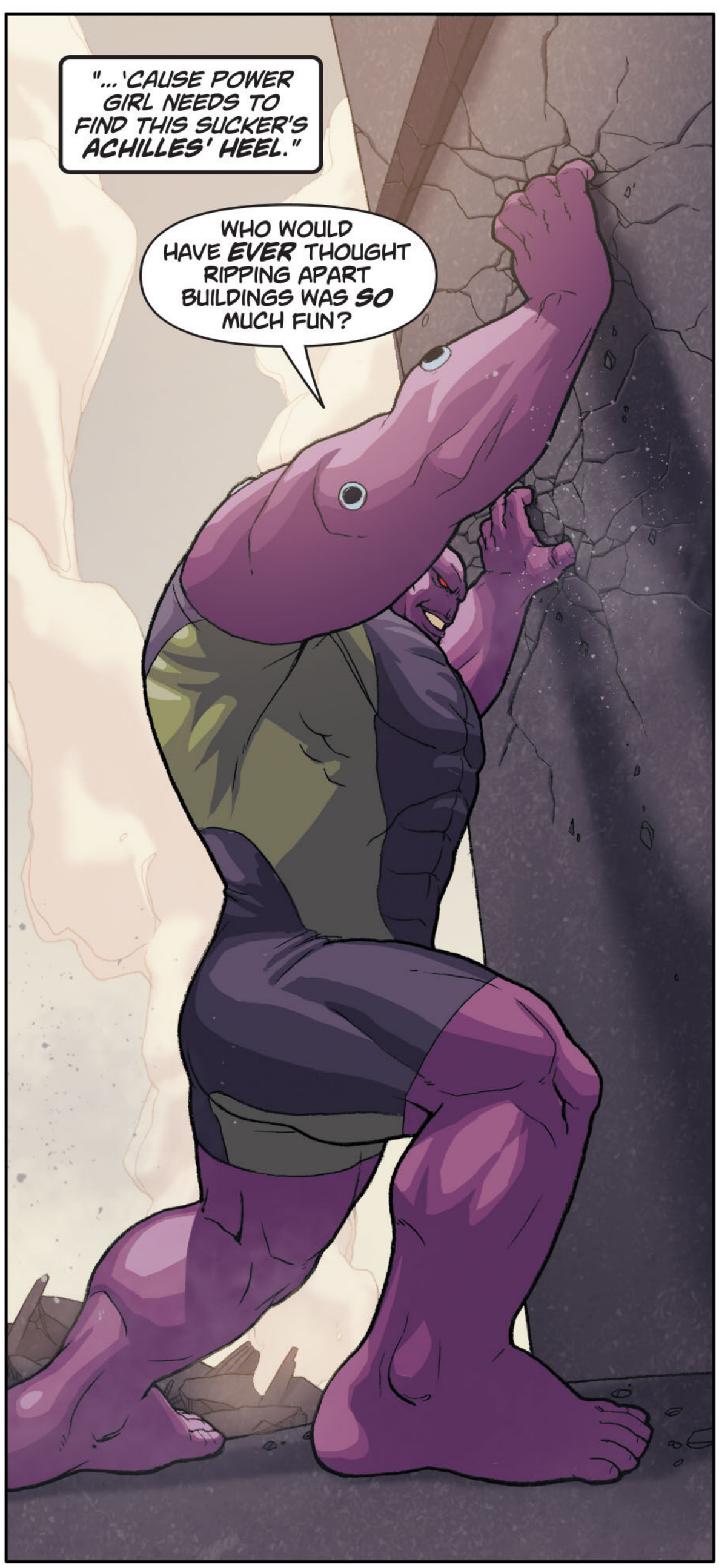

C.R.A.S.H.167-089-561
YEAH.
MAKE SURE NO ONE GOES INTO MY OFFICE FOR THE NEXT 30 SECONDS.


YOUR OFFICE? I DON'T UNDERSTAND, WHY SHOULDN'T--

BOOOM
HOLY--!!

WHAT WAS--?!
IN MY OFFICE.
WHAT?
POWER GIRL JUST PUT THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE IN MY OFFICE.

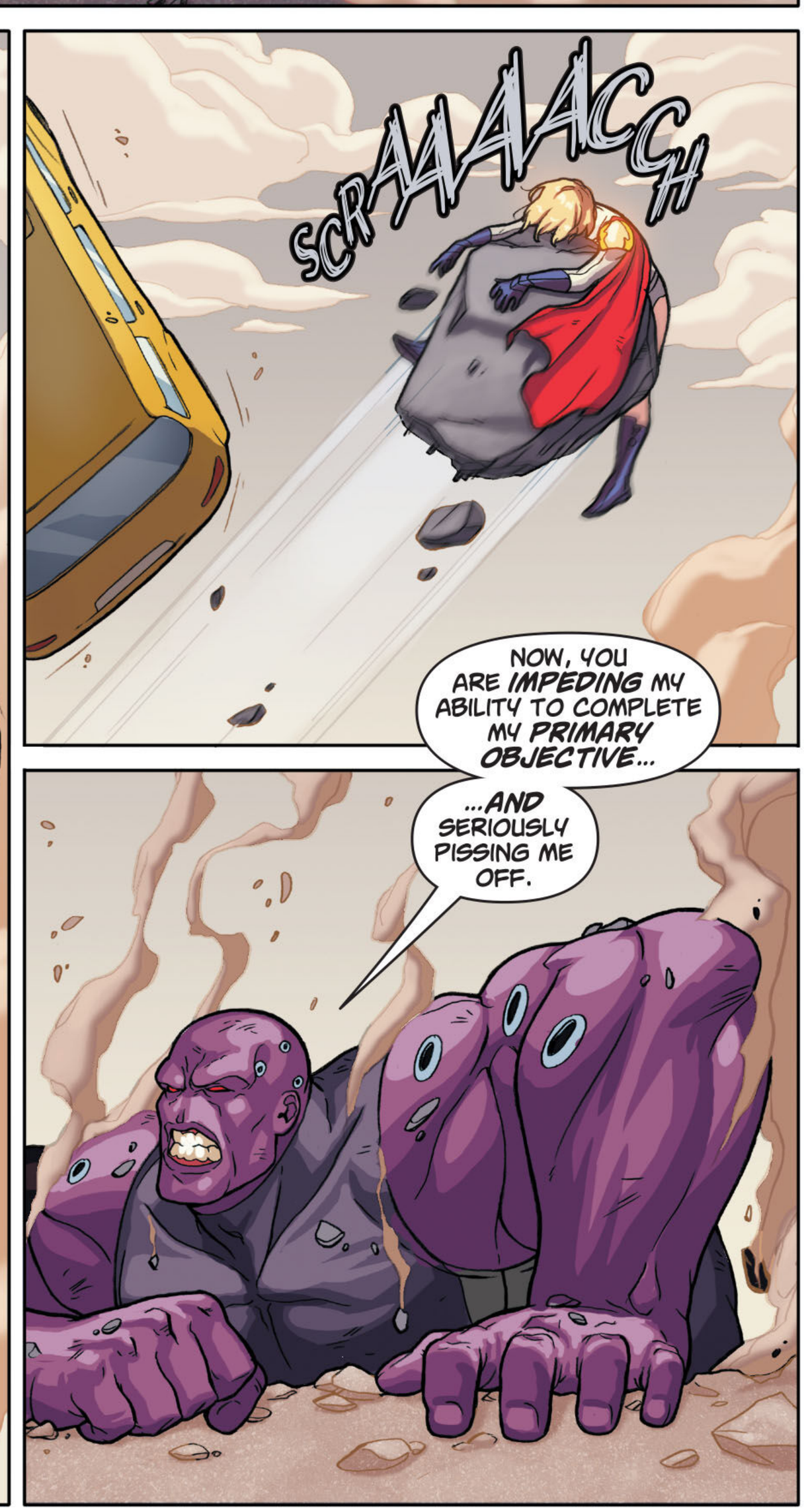

YOU SEE IT?
YES. IT'S TOUGH TO MISS.
GOOD. TRACK DOWN WHERE IT CAME FROM...

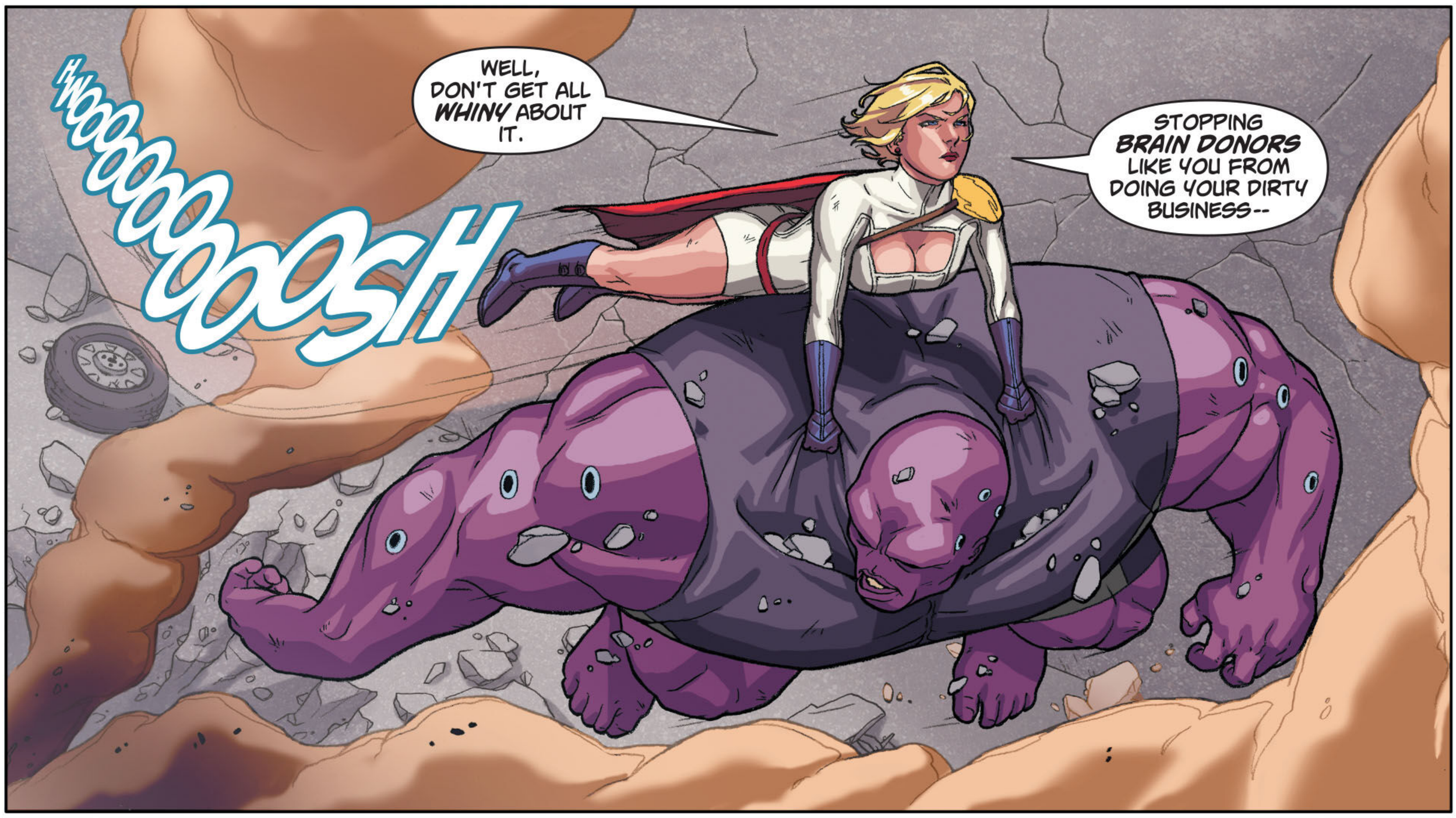

"...'CAUSE POWER GIRL NEEDS TO FIND THIS SUCKER'S ACHILLES' HEEL."
WHO WOULD HAVE EVER THOUGHT RIPPING APART BUILDINGS WAS SO MUCH FUN?

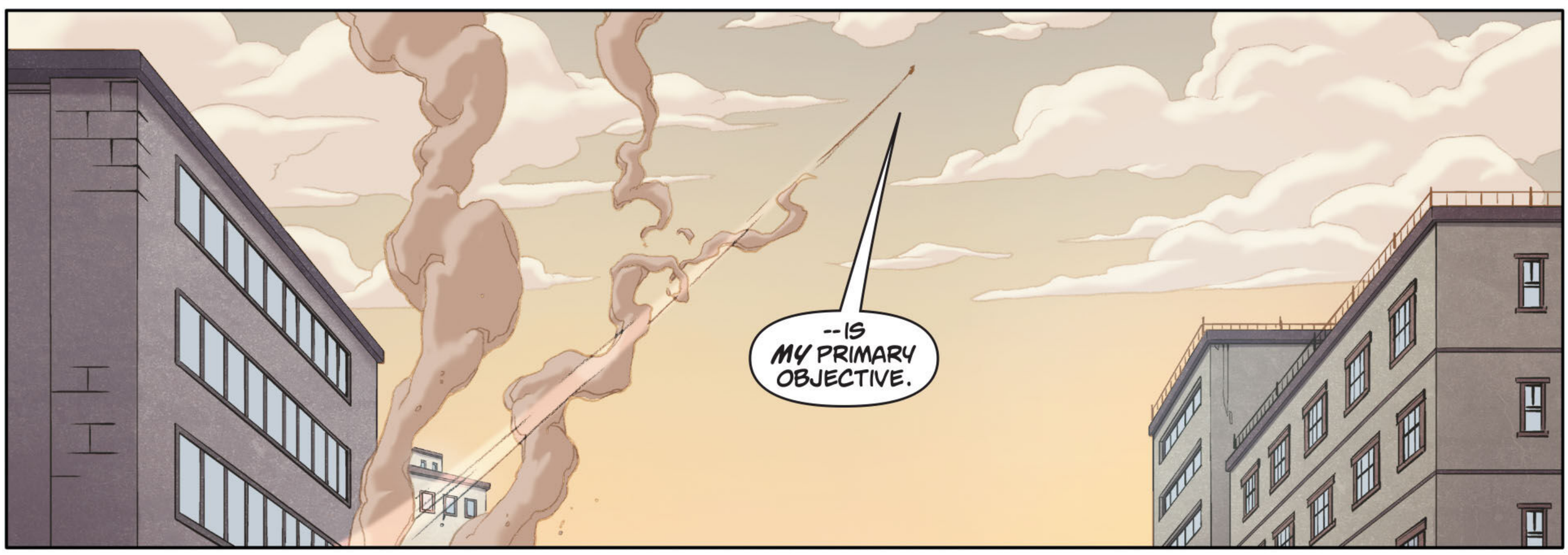
IT'S LIKE SEX, BUT WITH MUCH MORE DEBRIS.
NOW, IF--EH?

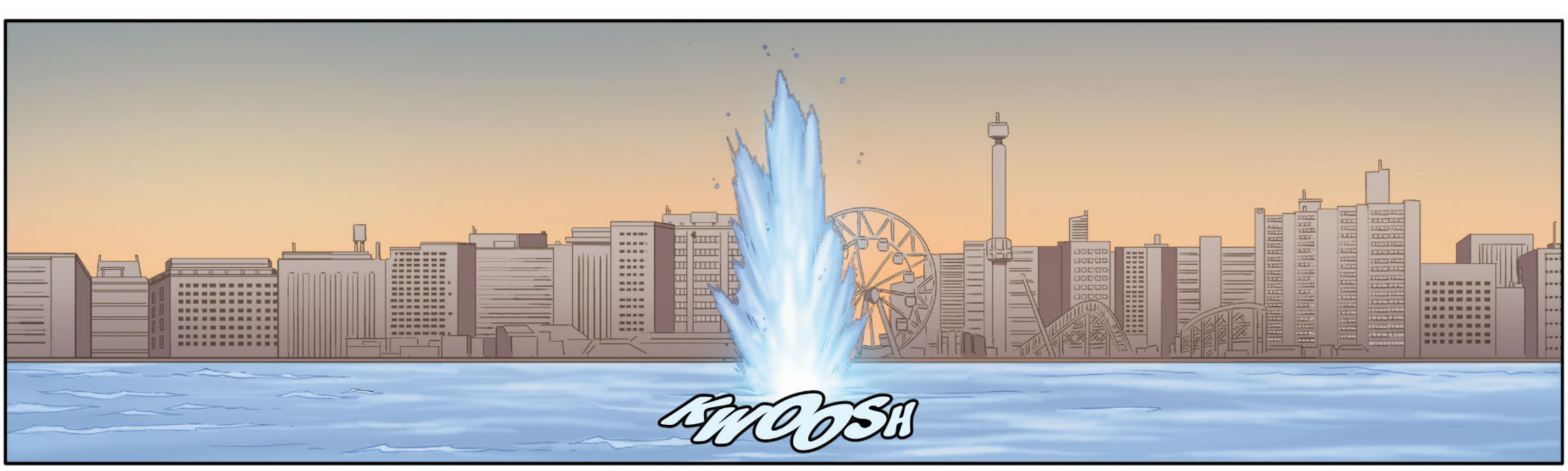
KA-BOOM

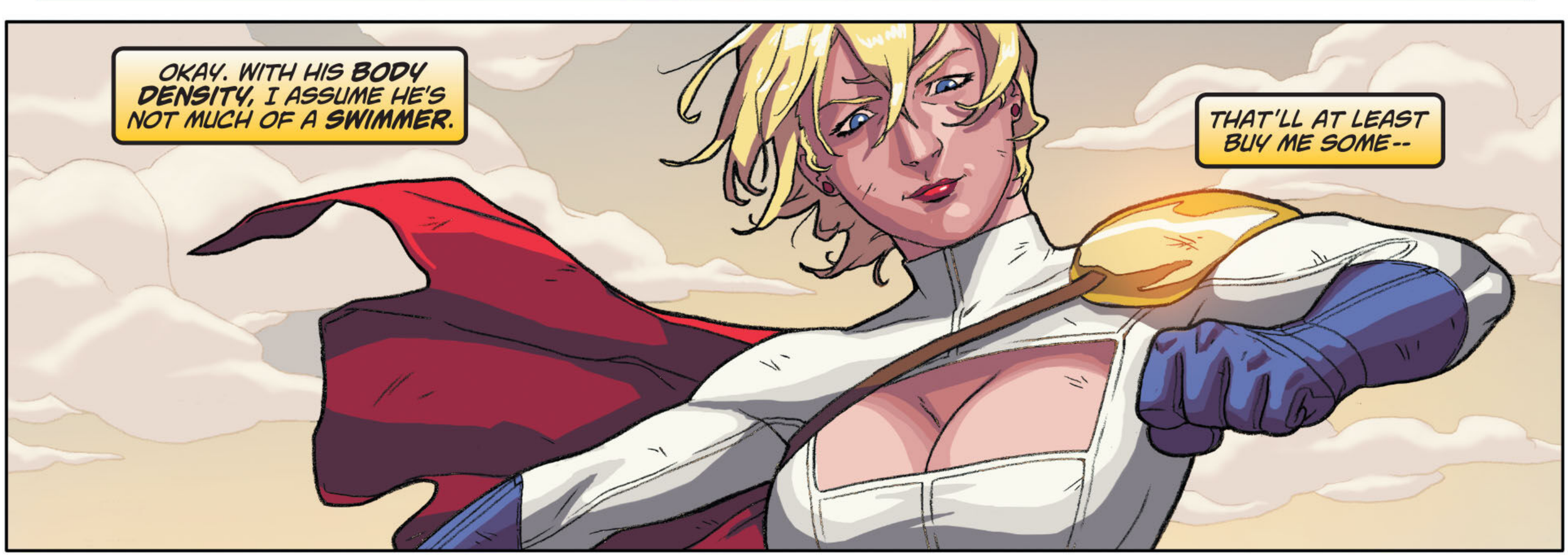
SORRY IF THAT PUTS THE BREAKS ON YOUR RISING MOJO A BIT THERE, LOVER BOY.
BUT WE LIKE TO PRACTICE SAFER SEX IN THESE PARTS.


SCRAAAACCH
NOW, YOU ARE IMPEDING MY ABILITY TO COMPLETE MY PRIMARY OBJECTIVE...
...AND SERIOUSLY PISSING ME OFF.

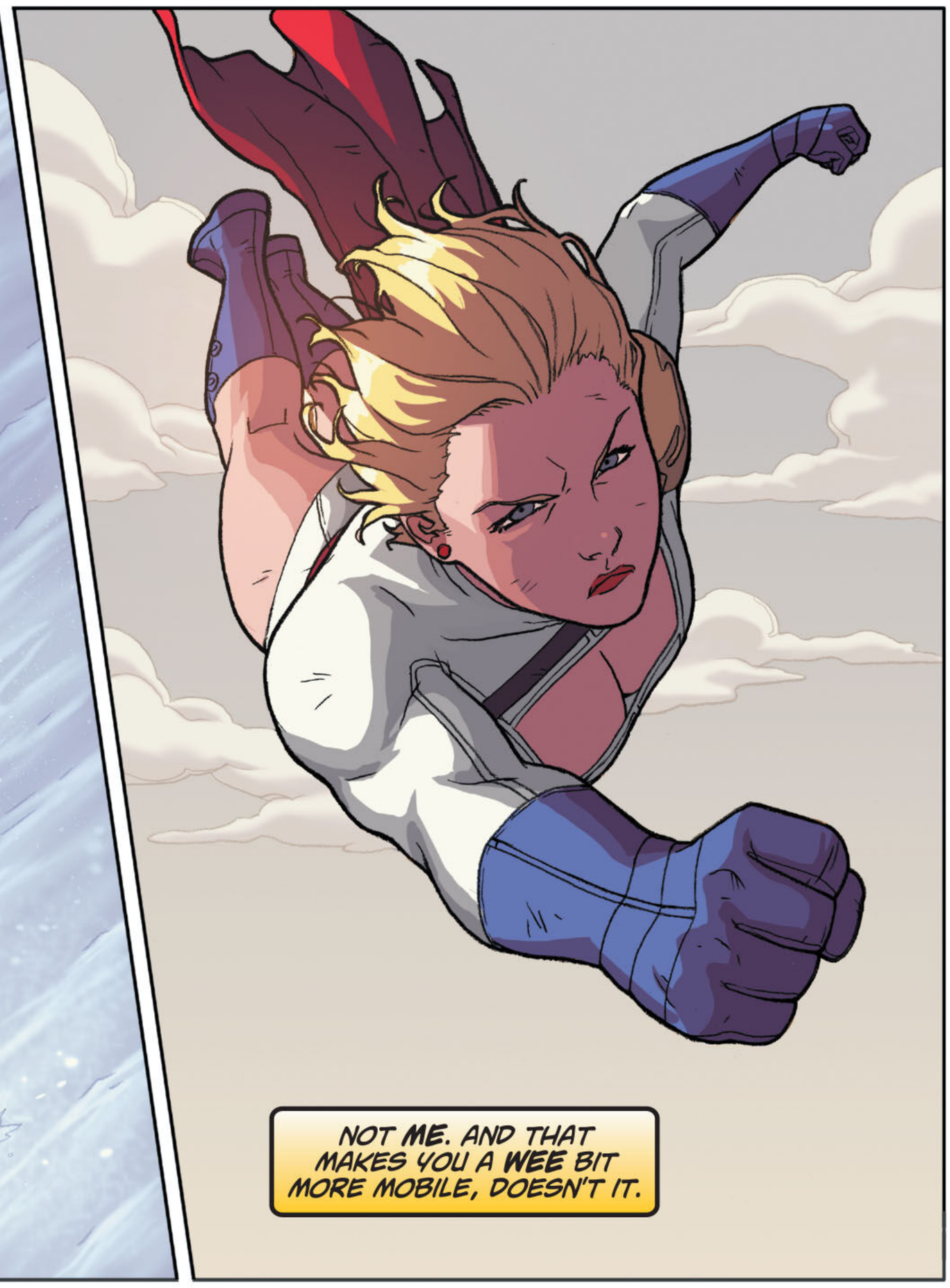

WOOOOOOOSH
WELL, DON'T GET ALL WHINY ABOUT IT.
STOPPING BRAIN DONORS LIKE YOU FROM DOING YOUR DIRTY BUSINESS--

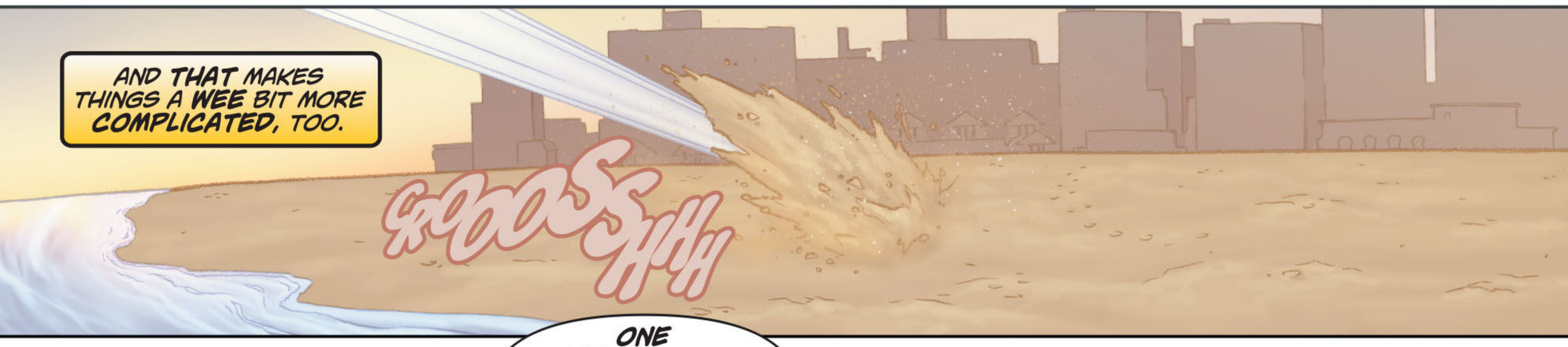

--IS MY PRIMARY OBJECTIVE.

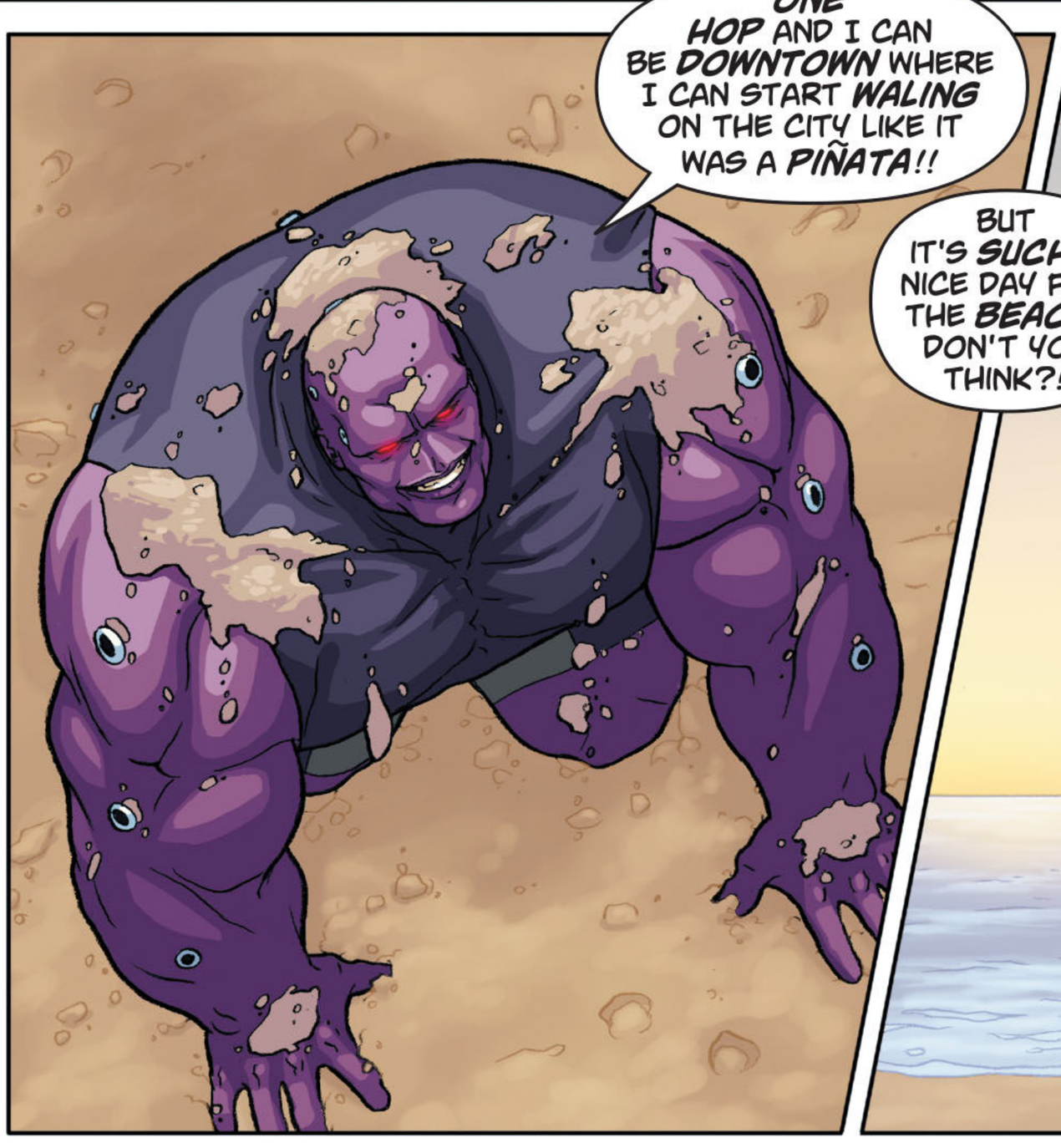

KWOOSH

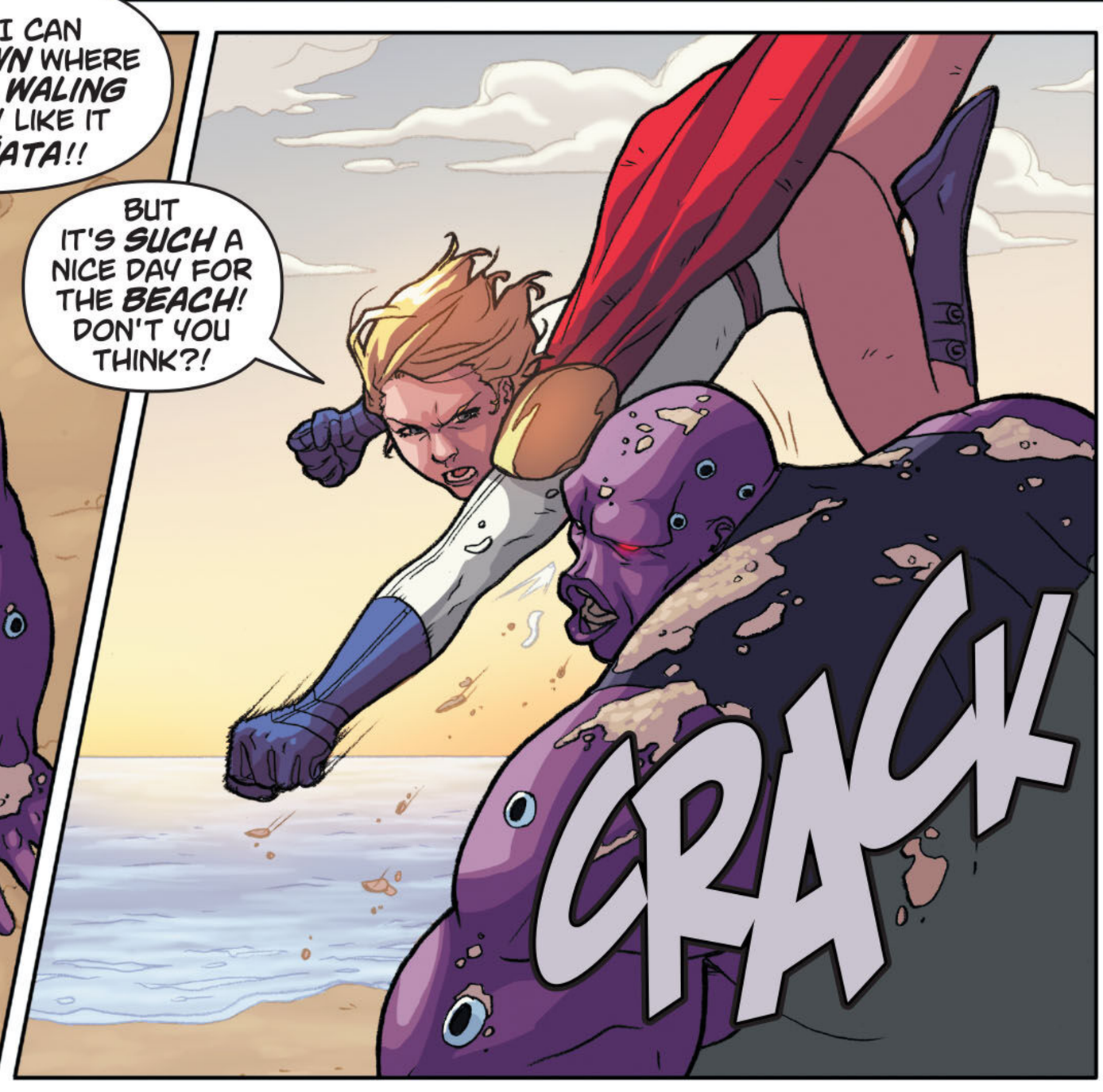

OKAY. WITH HIS BODY DENSITY, I ASSUME HE'S NOT MUCH OF A SWIMMER.
THAT'LL AT LEAST BUY ME SOME--

--TIME.
I CAN JUMP!! WHO KNEW I COULD JUMP LIKE THIS?!?
POOOM

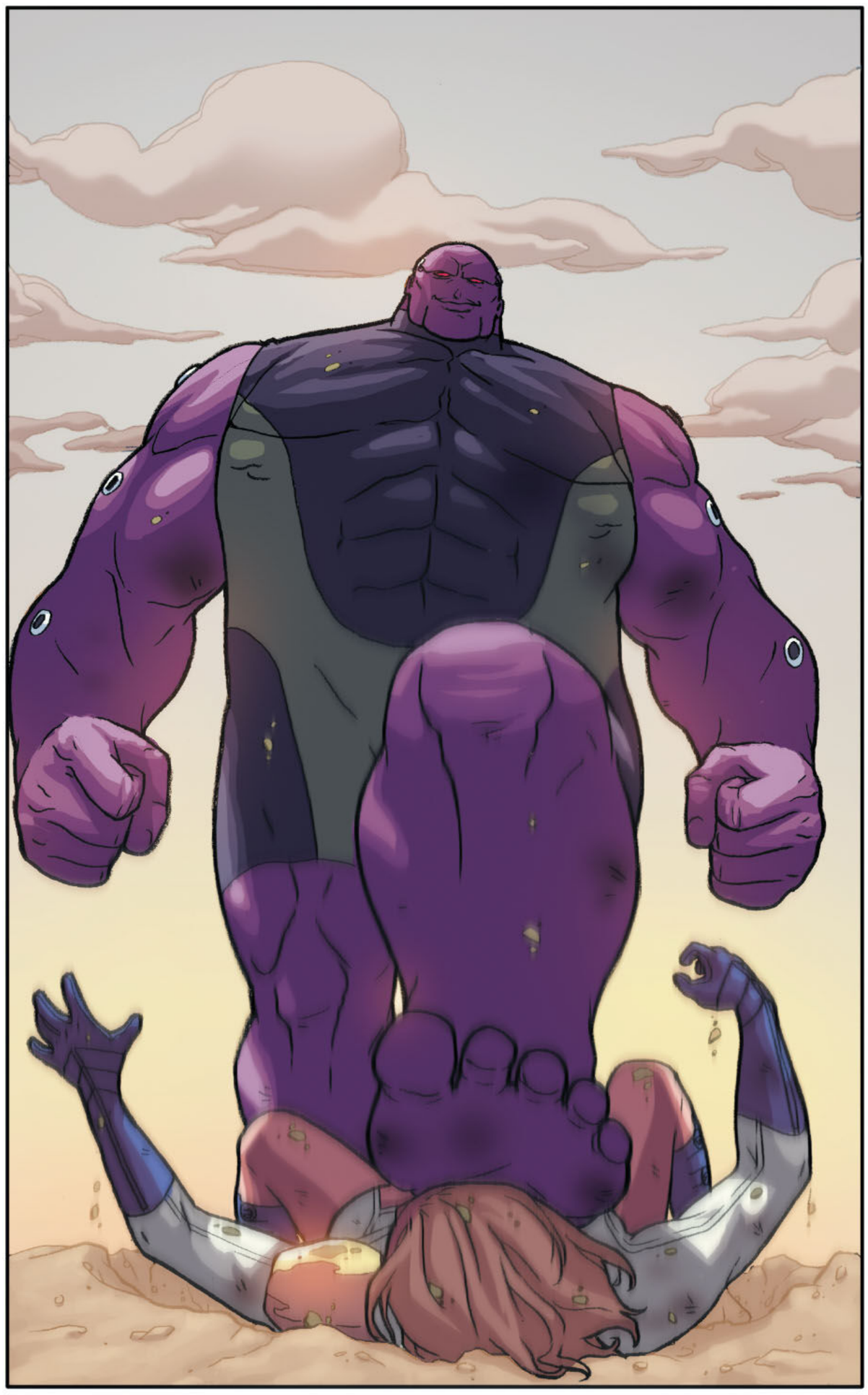

NOT ME. AND THAT MAKES YOU A WEE BIT MORE MOBILE, DOESN'T IT.


AND THAT MAKES THINGS A WEE BIT MORE COMPLICATED, TOO.
SOOOSHHH


ONE HOP AND I CAN BE DOWNTOWN WHERE I CAN START WALING ON THE CITY LIKE IT WAS A PIÑATA!!

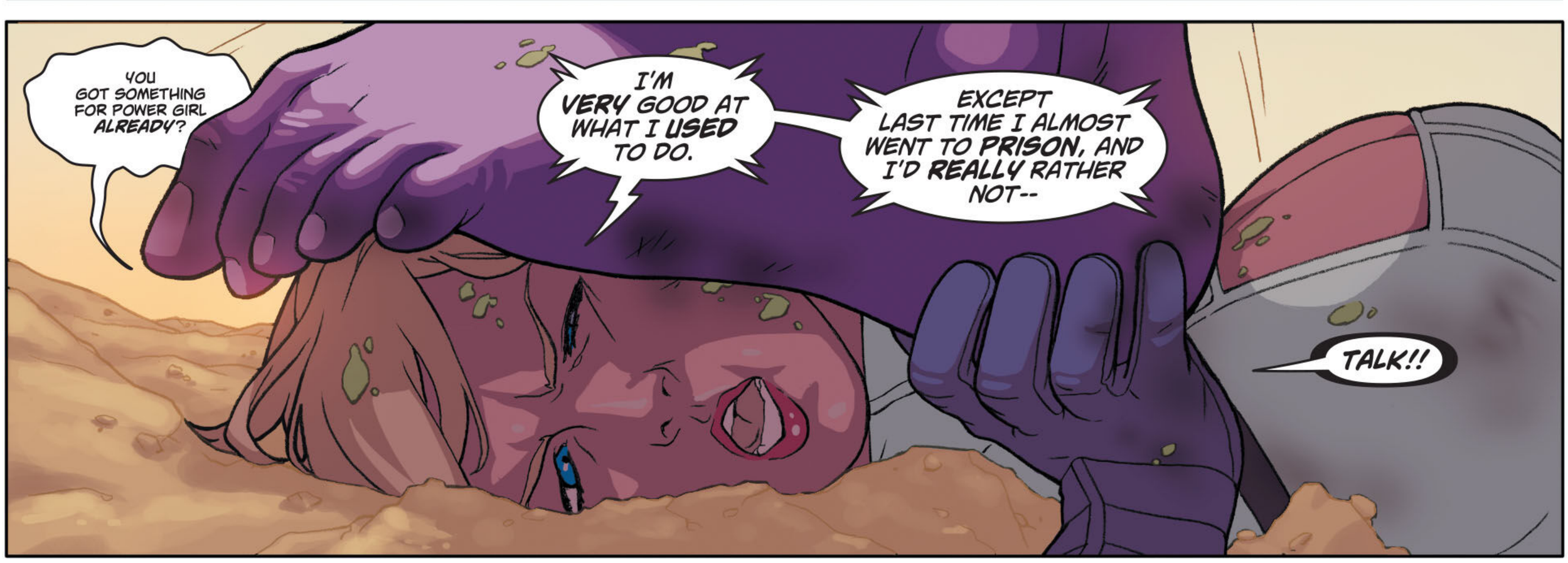

BUT IT'S SUCH A NICE DAY FOR THE BEACH! DON'T YOU THINK?!
CRACK

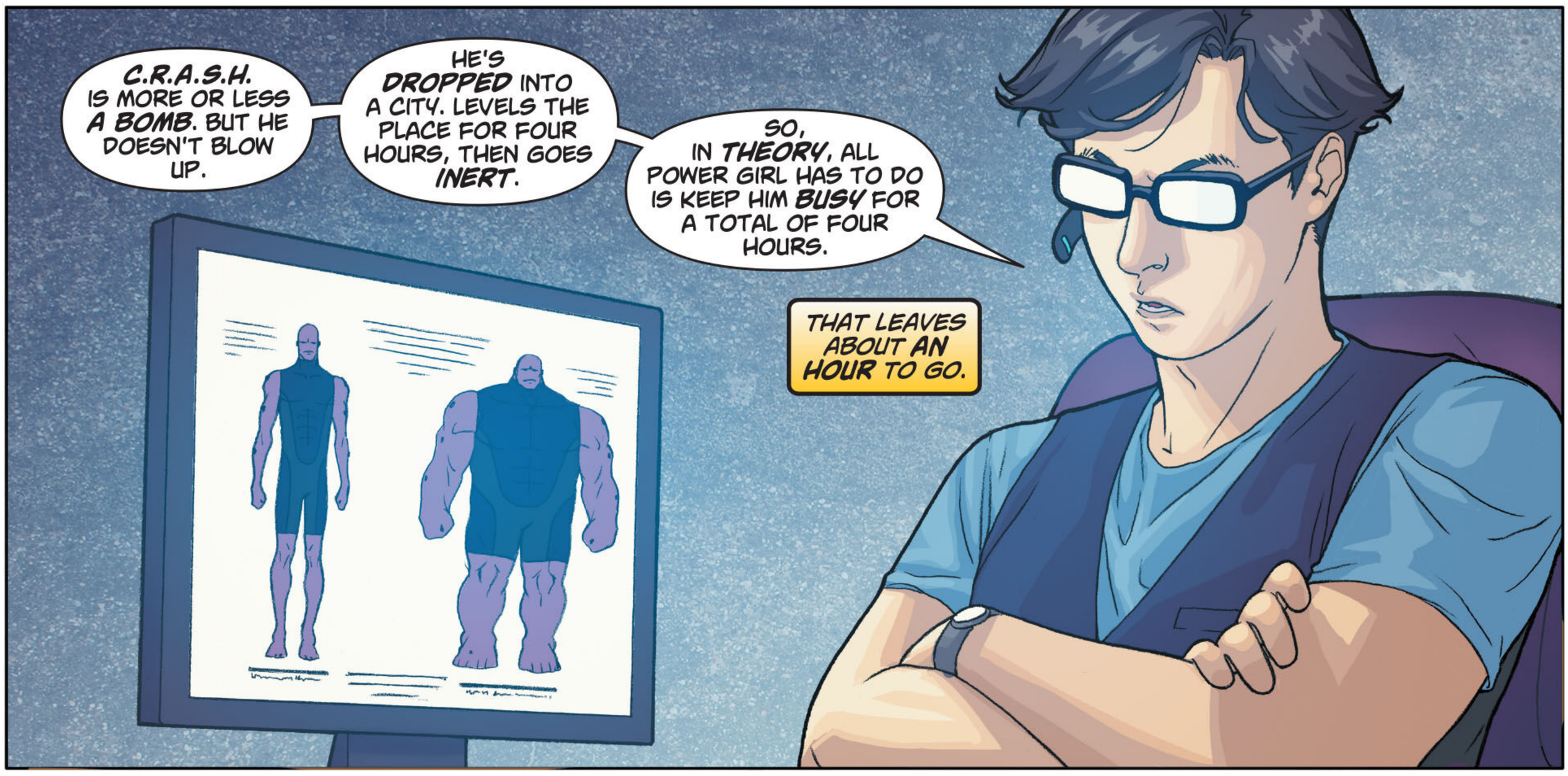
I WAS NEVER ONE FOR THE SUN. RUSSIANS DON'T CARE FOR THE HEAT.
SORRY TO HEAR THAT. THEN THIS WILL PROBABLY SUCK.
GREEEEEEEN
HA! A WHOLE NEW ME! I SEEM TO TAN BETTER THAN I USED TO!
BROCK

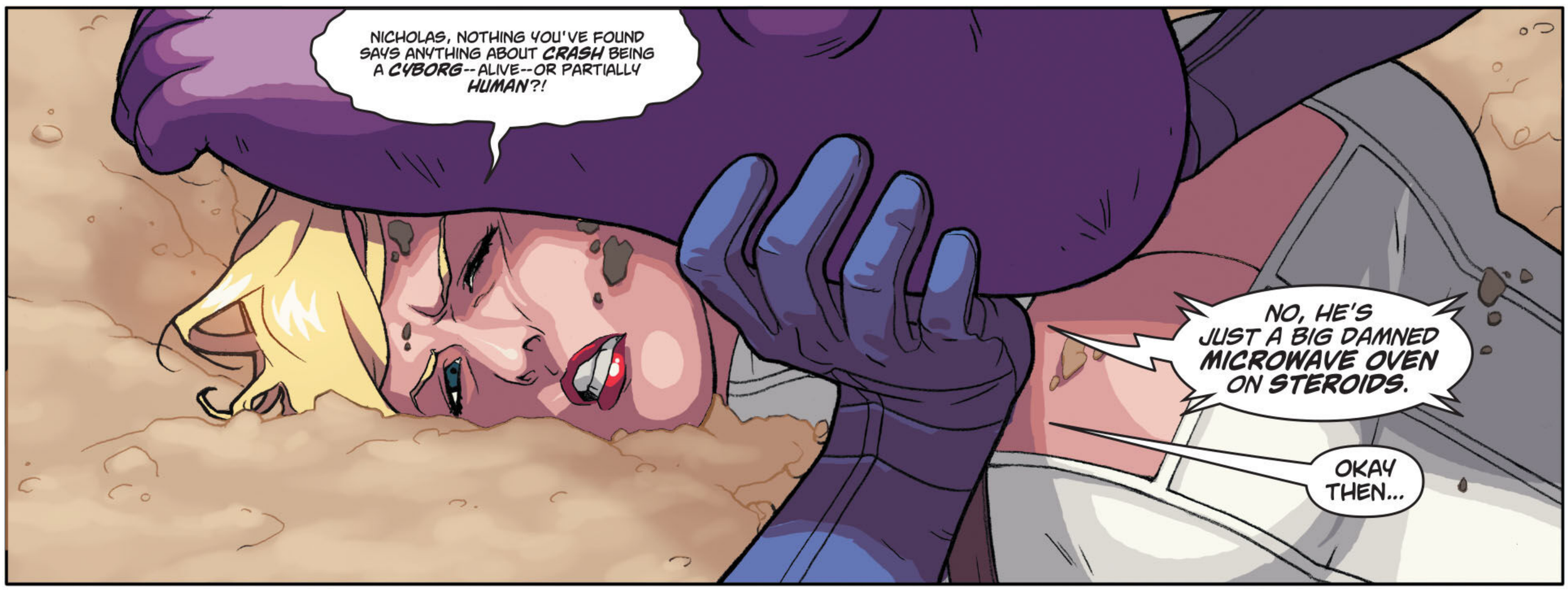


DEET-DEET
DEET-DEET
DEET-DEET
THE HELL IS THA--
OH. THE EARRING PHONE.
ANSWER.

KAREN, IT'S ME.
HEY.
YOU OKAY? YOU SOUND LIKE, I DON'T KNOW, CRAMPED.
I'M IN AN ELEVATOR.

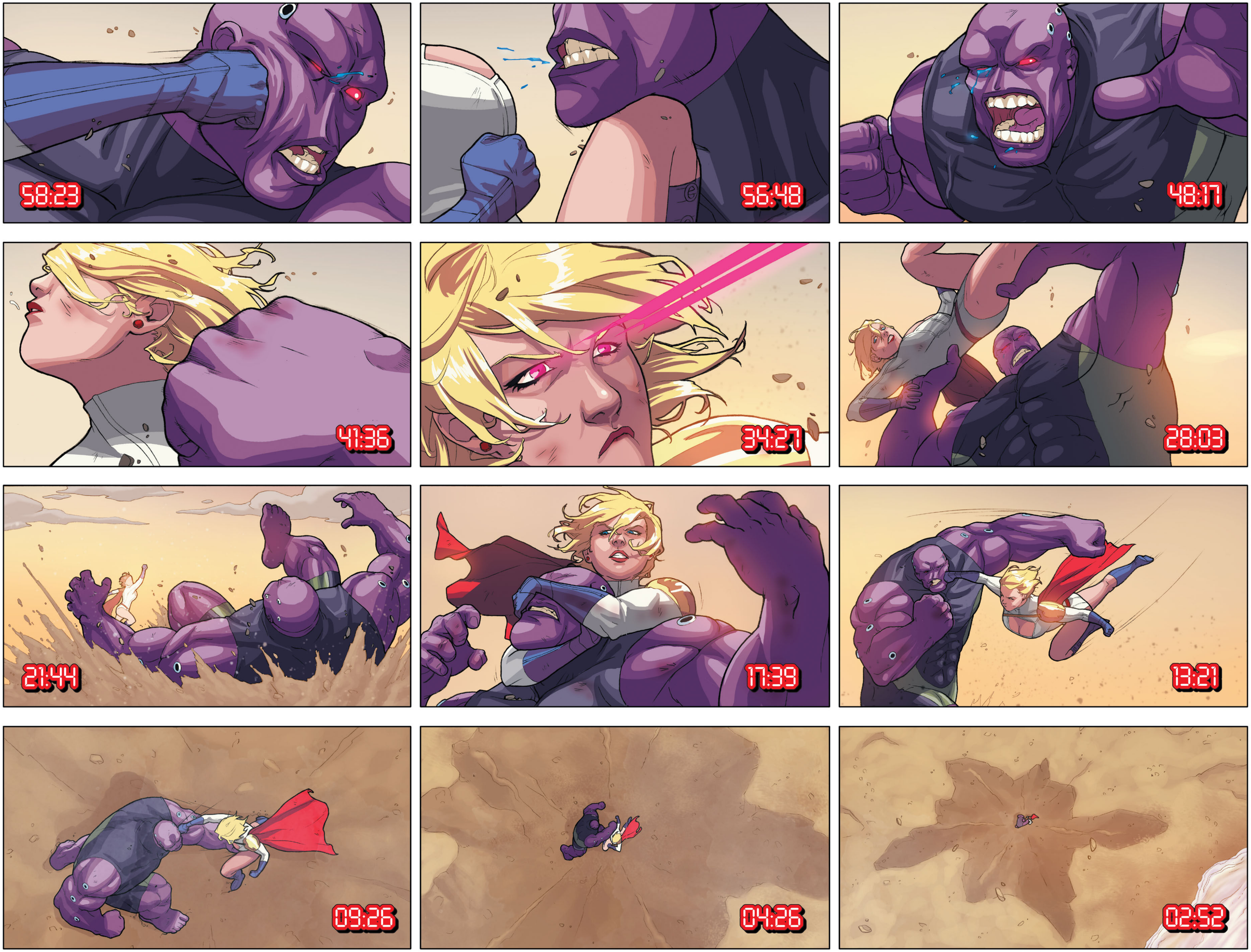

YOU GOT SOMETHING FOR POWER GIRL ALREADY?
I'M VERY GOOD AT WHAT I USED TO DO.
EXCEPT LAST TIME I ALMOST WENT TO PRISON, AND I'D REALLY RATHER NOT--
TALK!!


C.R.A.S.H. IS MORE OR LESS A BOMB. BUT HE DOESN'T BLOW UP.
HE'S DROPPED INTO A CITY. LEVELS THE PLACE FOR FOUR HOURS, THEN GOES INERT.
SO, IN THEORY, ALL POWER GIRL HAS TO DO IS KEEP HIM BUSY FOR A TOTAL OF FOUR HOURS.
THAT LEAVES ABOUT AN HOUR TO GO.


NICHOLAS, NOTHING YOU'VE FOUND SAYS ANYTHING ABOUT CRASH BEING A CYBORG--ALIVE--OR PARTIALLY HUMAN?!
NO, HE'S JUST A BIG DAMNED MICROWAVE OVEN ON STEROIDS.
OKAY THEN...

...THE GLOVES COME OFF.
WHOOSH

CRACK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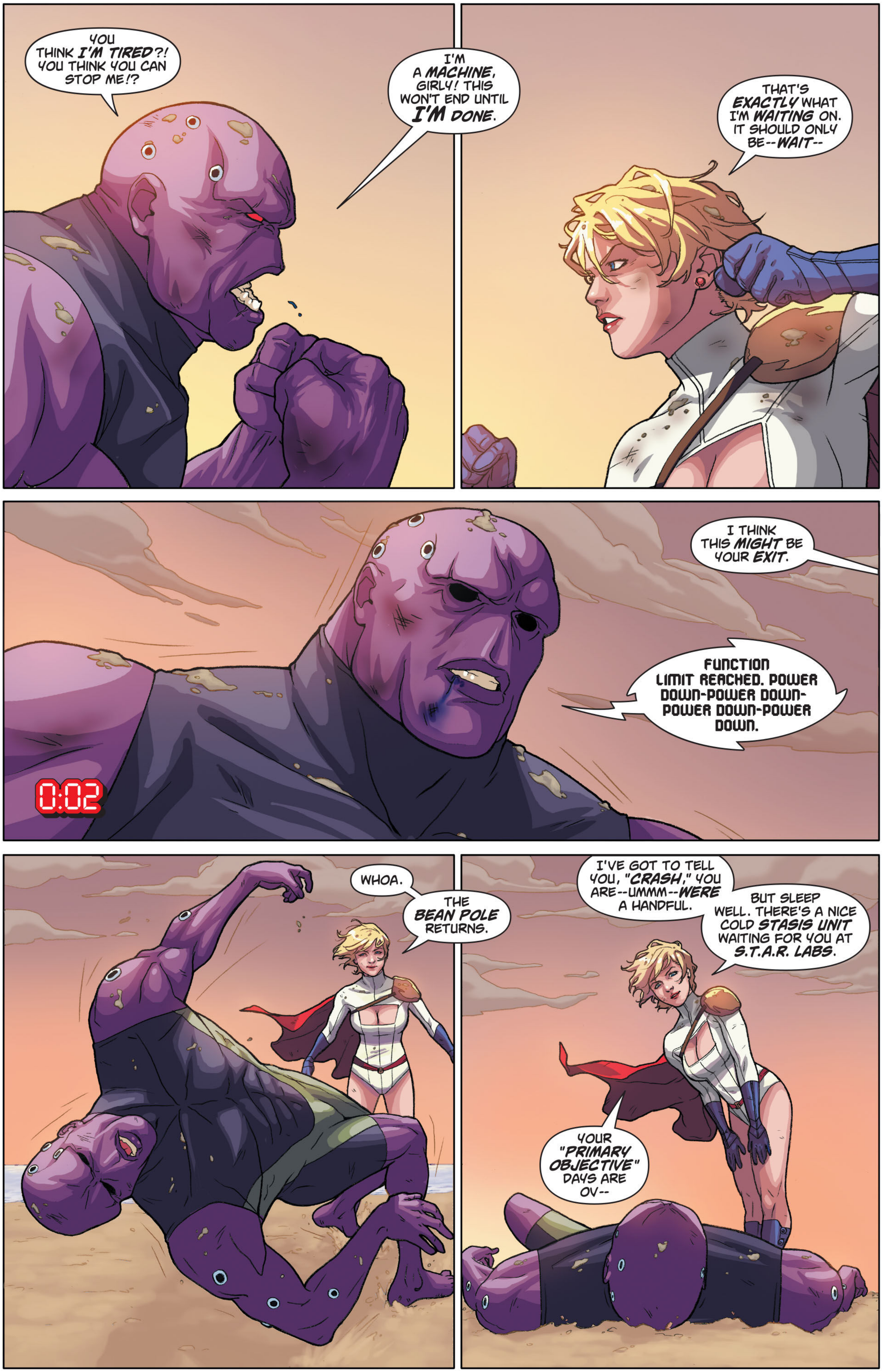
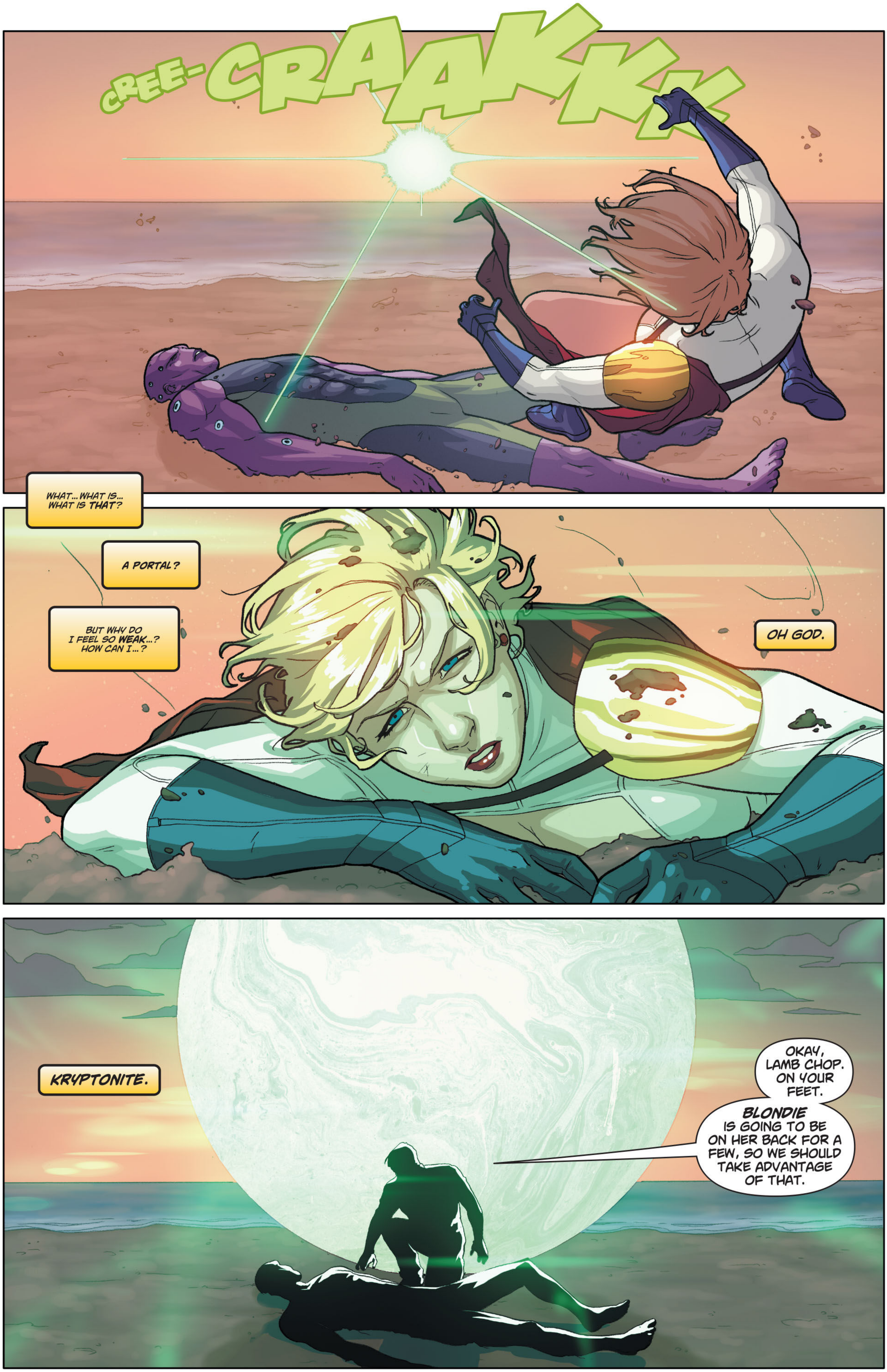
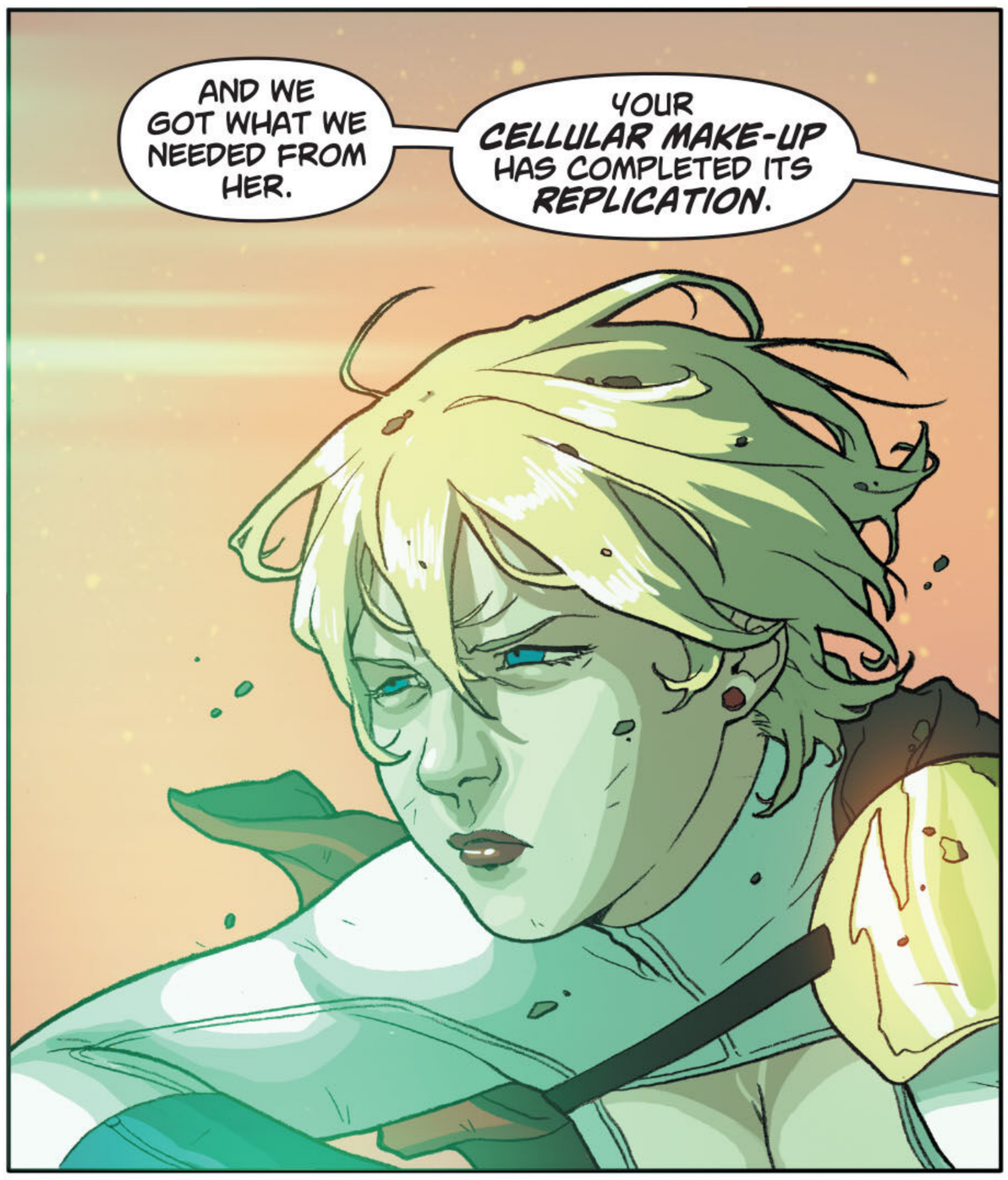
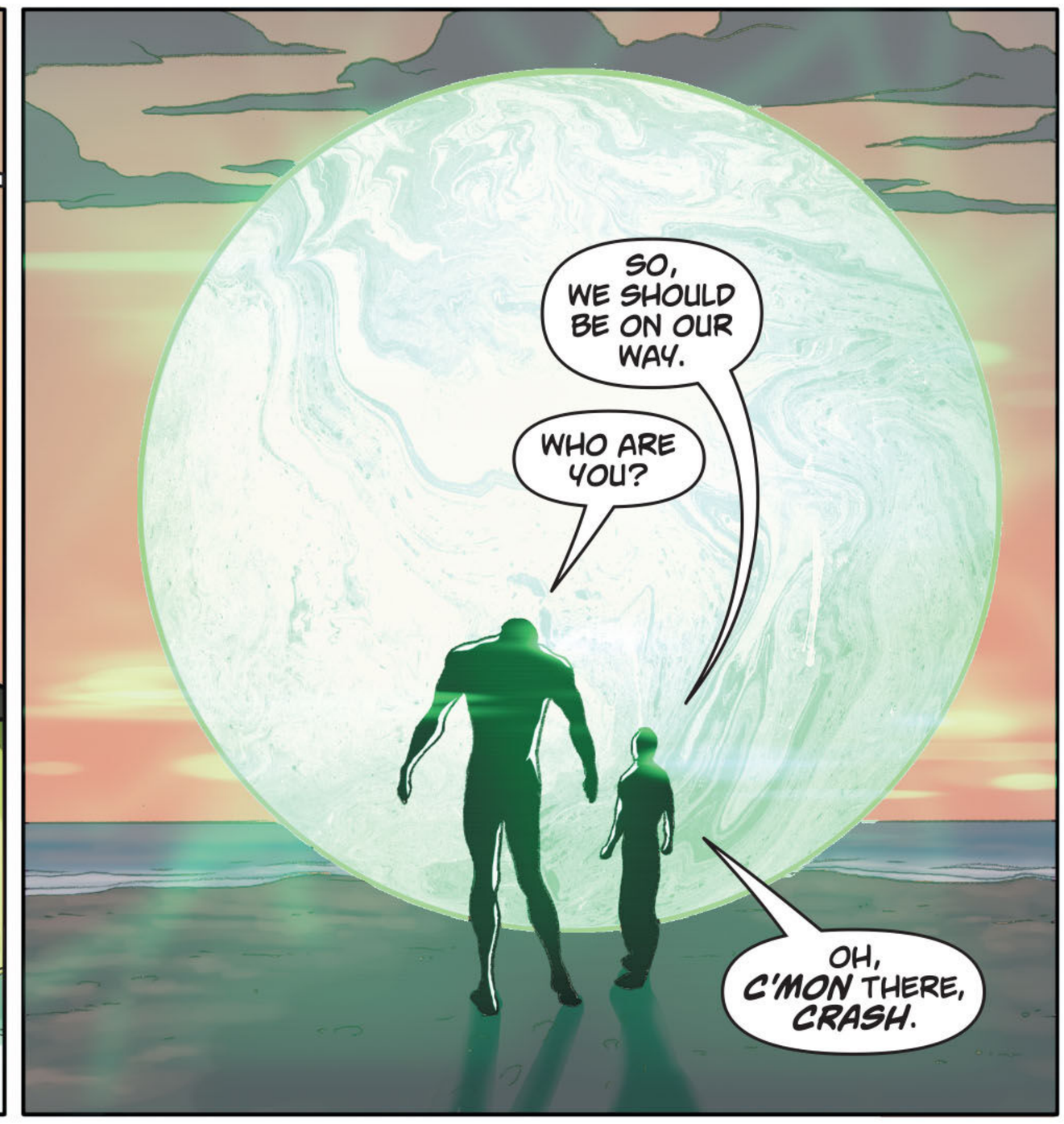
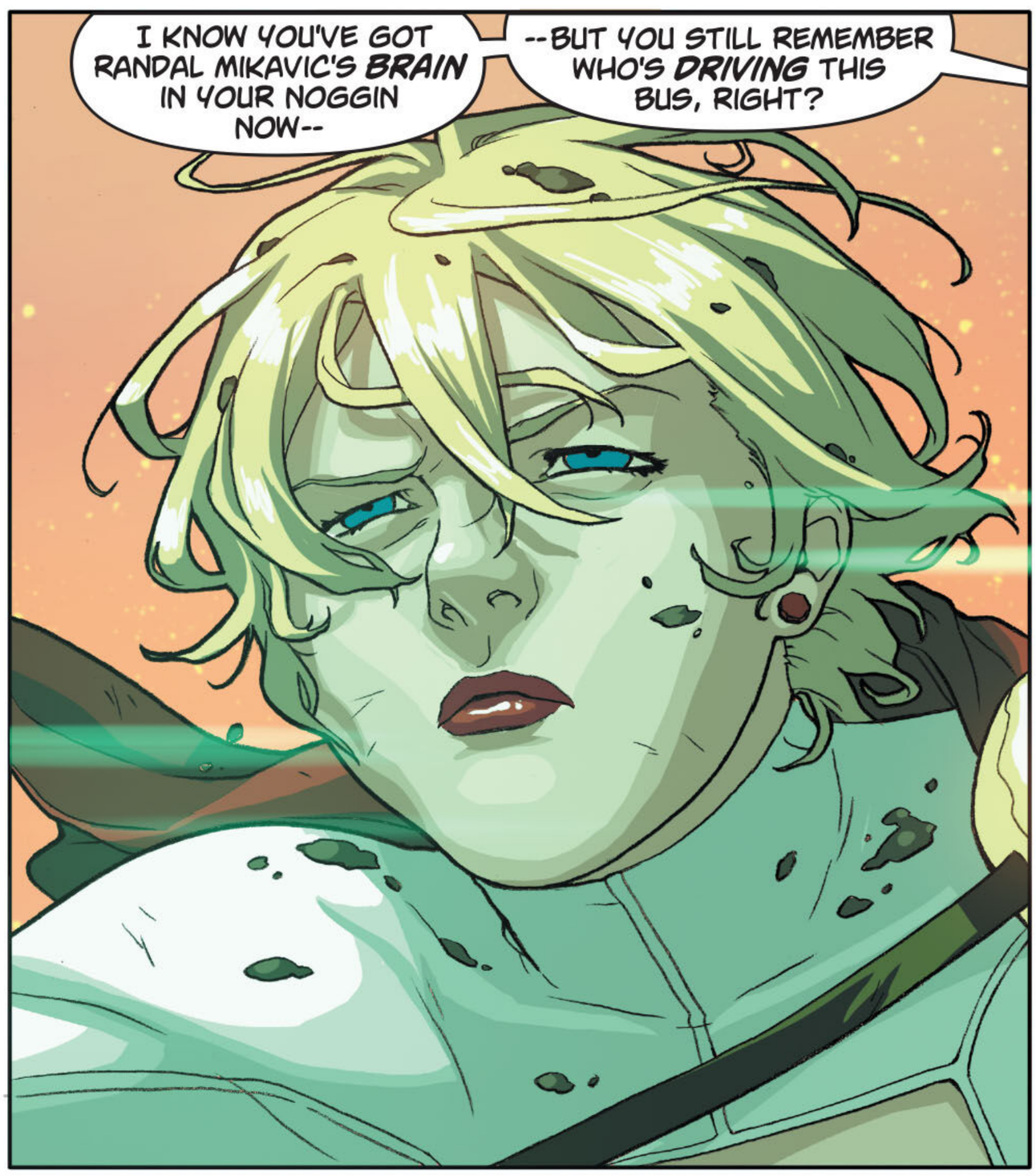

YOU THINK I'M TIRED?! YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP ME!?
I'M A MACHINE, GIRLY! THIS WON'T END UNTIL I'M DONE.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M WAITING ON. IT SHOULD ONLY BE--WAIT--
I THINK THIS MIGHT BE YOUR EXIT.
FUNCTION LIMIT REACHED. POWER DOWN-POWER DOWN-POWER DOWN-POWER DOWN.
0:02
WHOA.
THE BEAN POLE RETURNS.
I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU, "CRASH," YOU ARE--UMMM--WERE A HANDFUL.
BUT SLEEP WELL. THERE'S A NICE COLD STASIS UNIT WAITING FOR YOU AT S.T.A.R. LABS.
YOUR "PRIMARY OBJECTIVE" DAYS ARE OV--

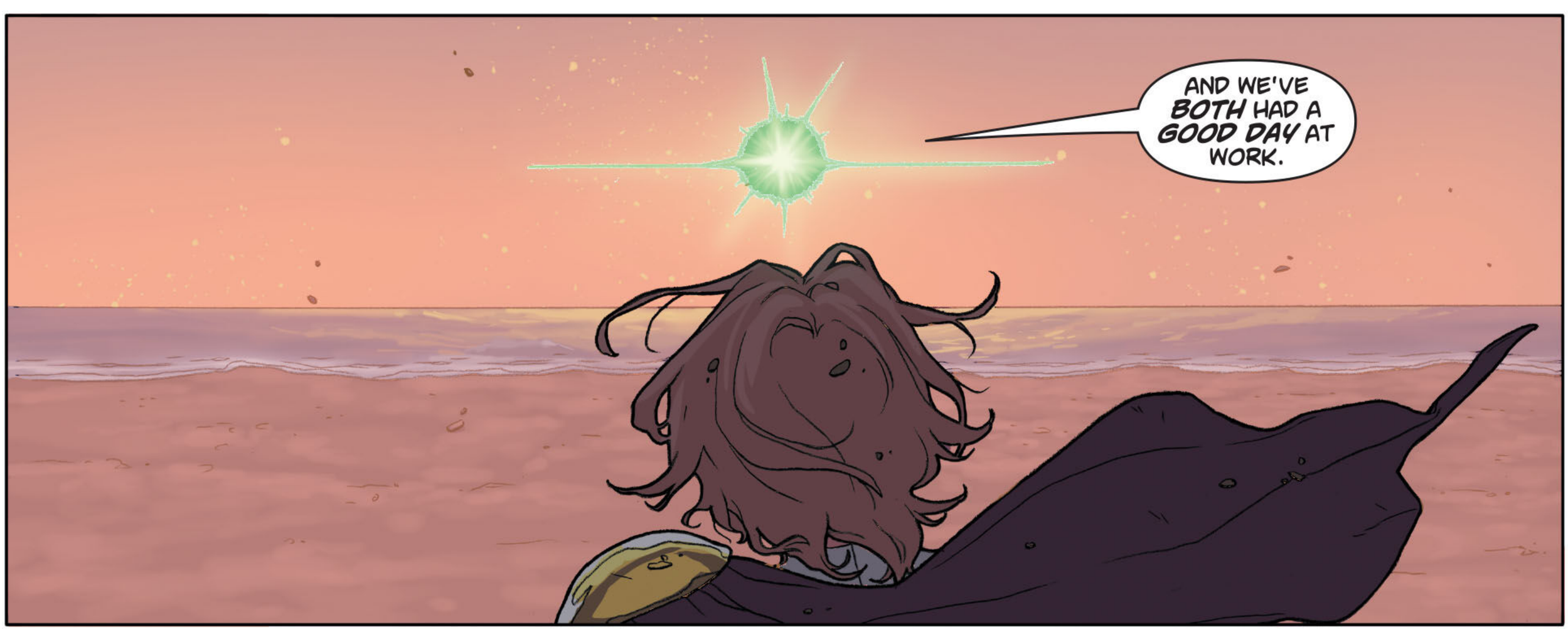

CREE-CRAAKKK
WHAT... WHAT IS... WHAT IS THAT?
A PORTAL?
BUT WHY DO I FEEL SO WEAK...? HOW CAN I...?
OH GOD.
KRYPTONITE.
OKAY, LAMB CHOP. ON YOUR FEET.
BLONDIE IS GOING TO BE ON HER BACK FOR A FEW, SO WE SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT.

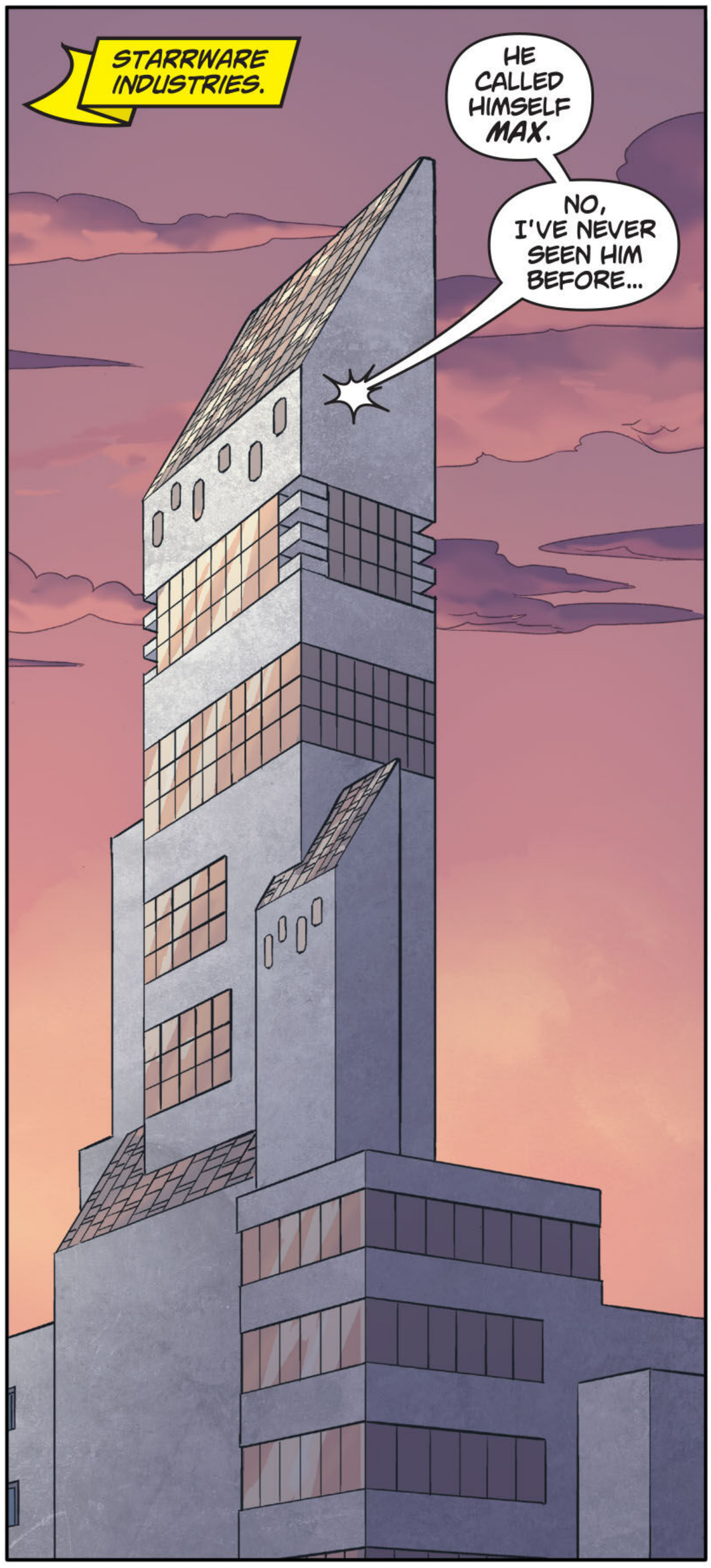

AND WE GOT WHAT WE NEEDED FROM HER.
YOUR CELLULAR MAKE-UP HAS COMPLETED ITS REPLICATION.

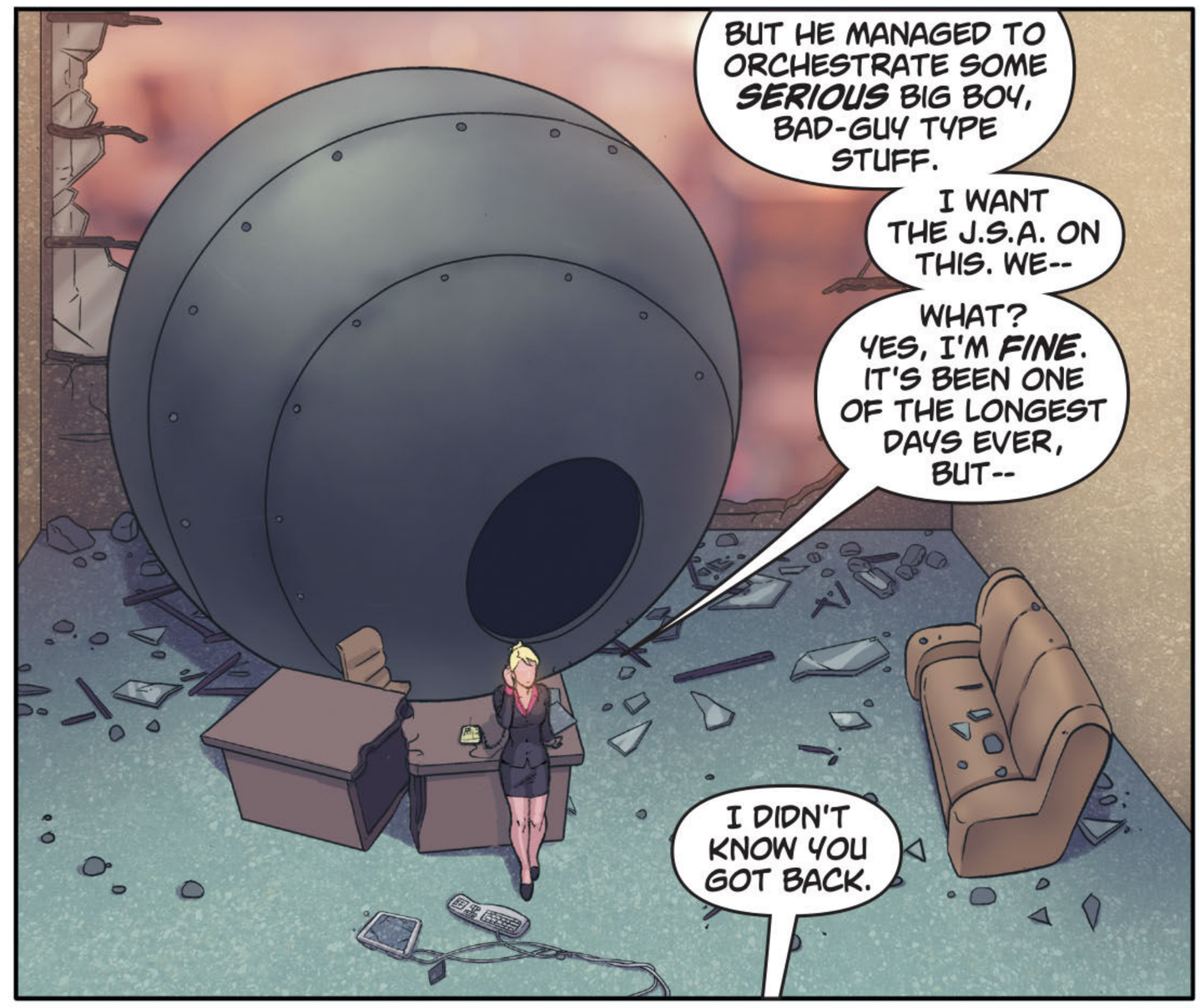

SO, WE SHOULD BE ON OUR WAY.
WHO ARE YOU?
OH, C'MON THERE, CRASH.

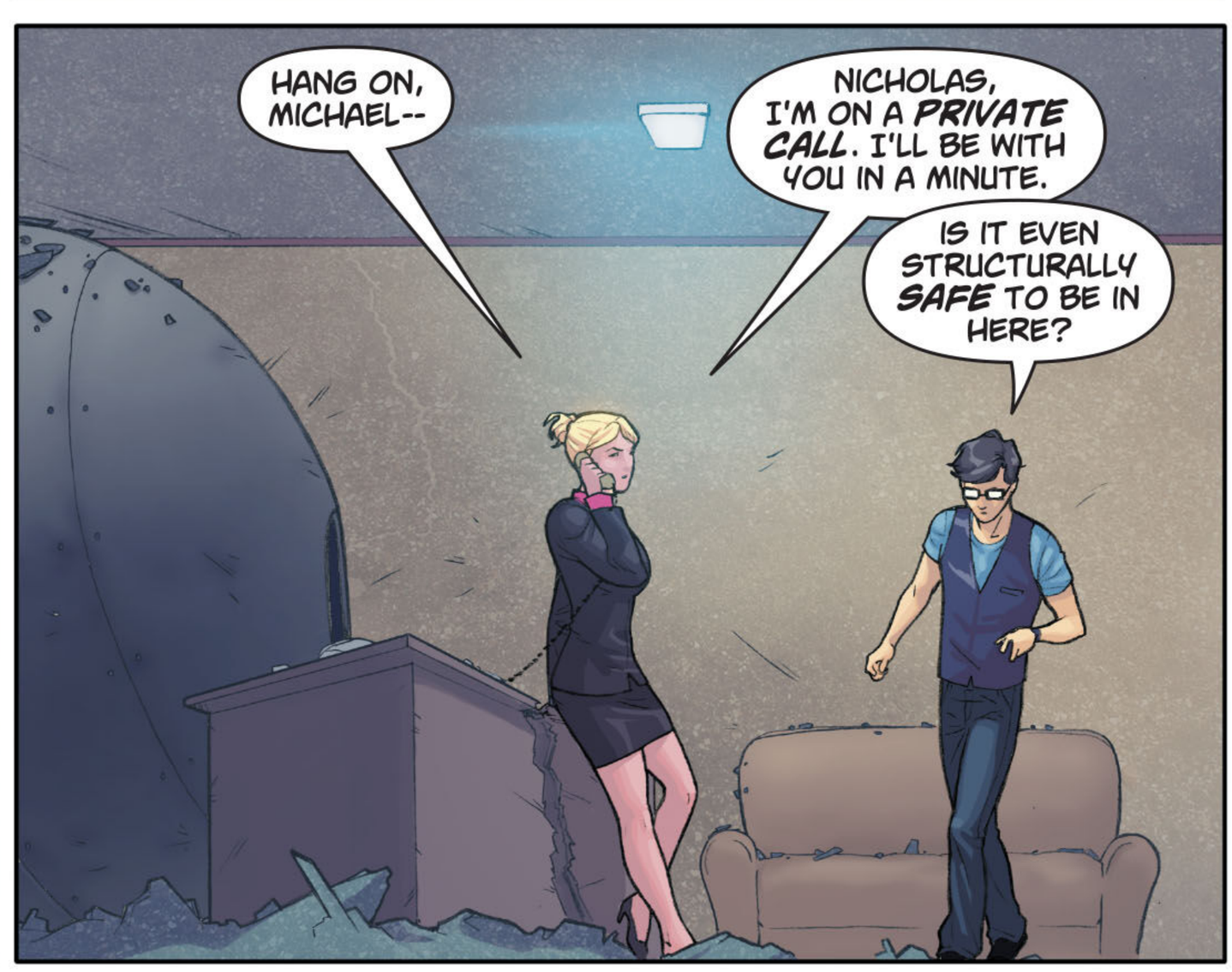

I KNOW YOU'VE GOT RANDAL MIKAVIC'S BRAIN IN YOUR NOGGIN NOW--
--BUT YOU STILL REMEMBER WHO'S DRIVING THIS BUS, RIGHT?

I'M THE MAN IN CHARGE.
I'M MAX.

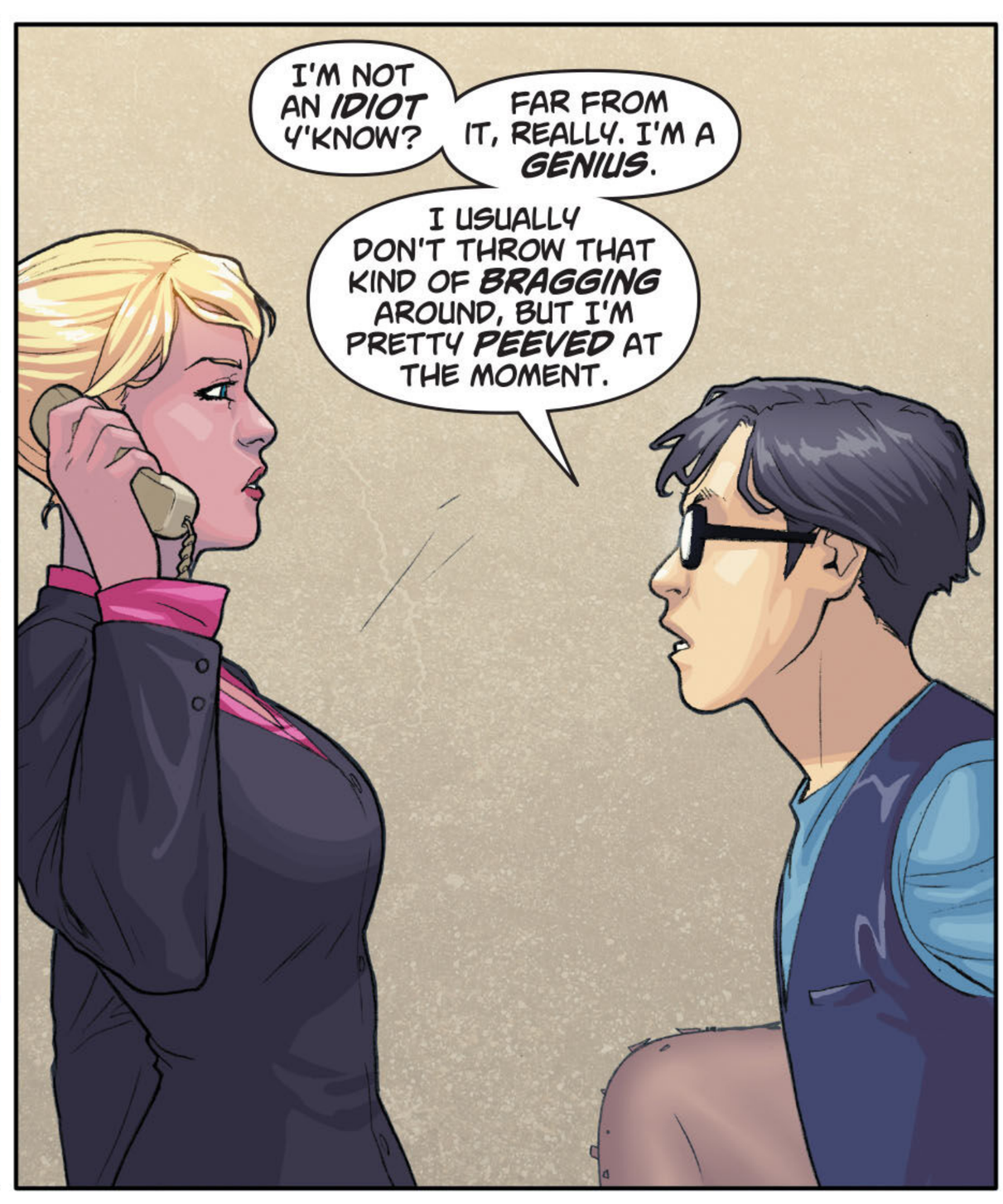

AND WE'VE BOTH HAD A GOOD DAY AT WORK.

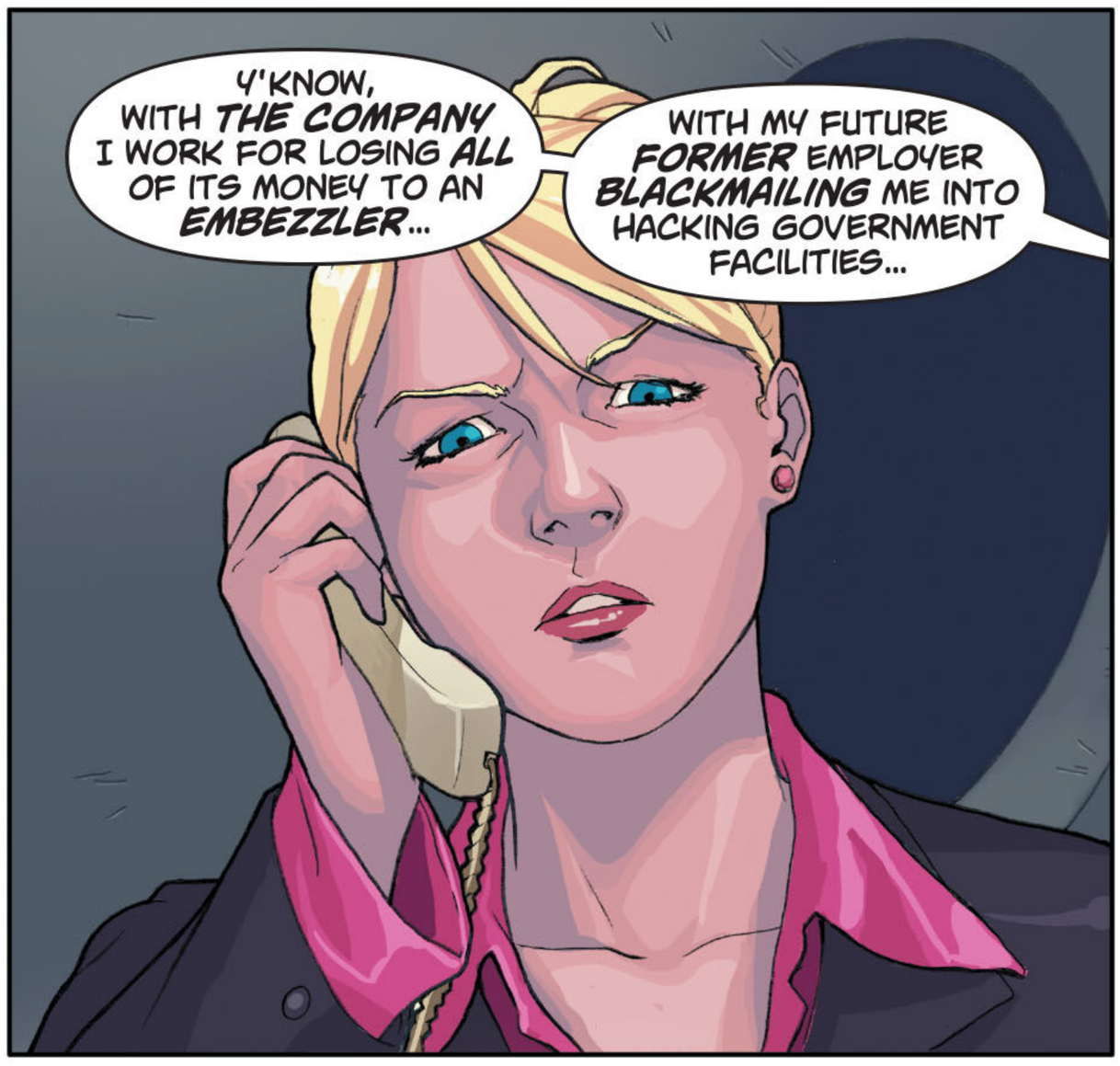

STARRWARE INDUSTRIES.
HE CALLED HIMSELF MAX.
NO, I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE...

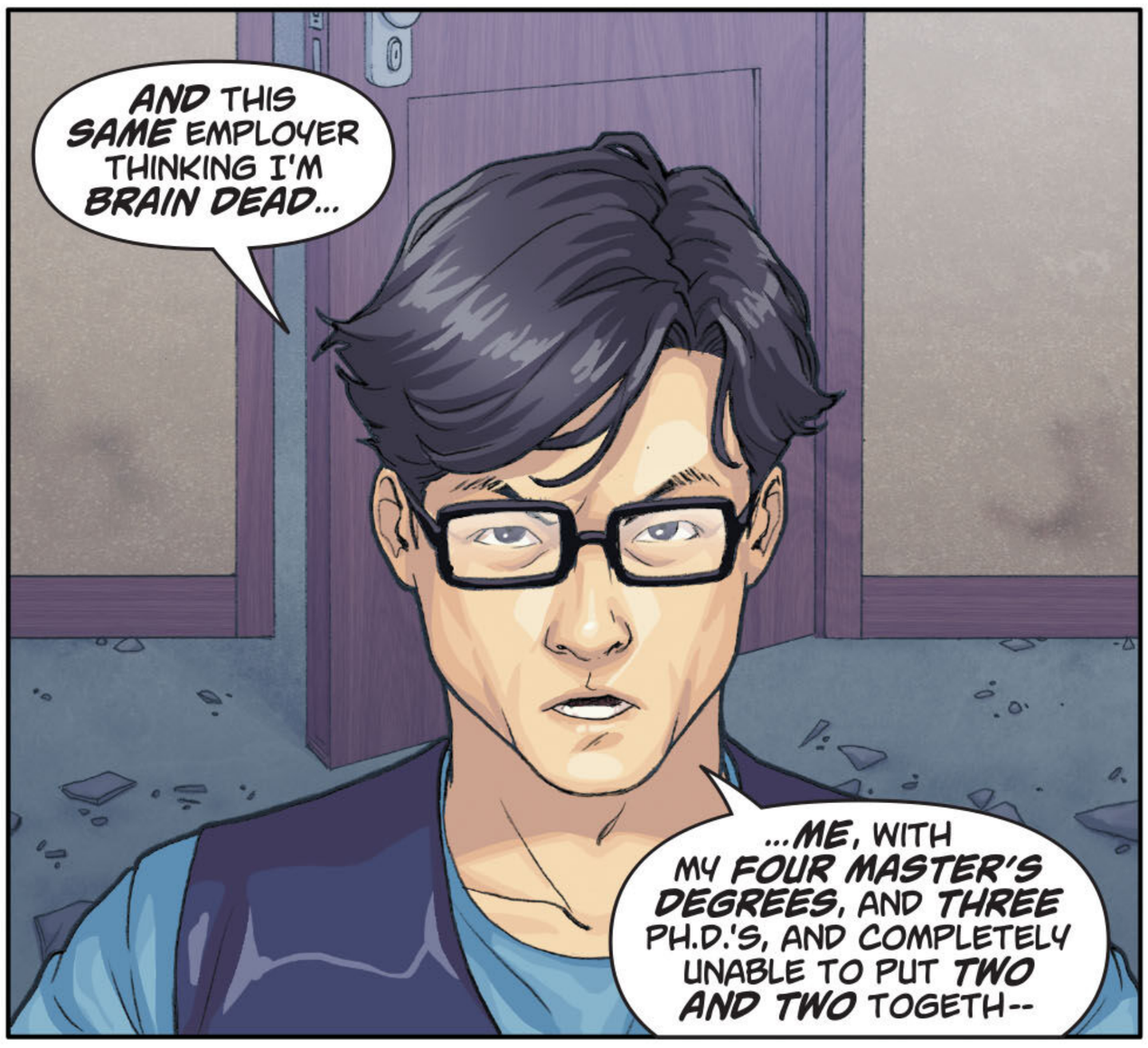

BUT HE MANAGED TO ORCHESTRATE SOME SERIOUS BIG BOY, BAD-GUY TYPE STUFF.
I WANT THE J.S.A. ON THIS. WE--
WHAT? YES, I'M FINE. IT'S BEEN ONE OF THE LONGEST DAYS EVER, BUT--
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU GOT BACK.


HANG ON, MICHAEL--
NICHOLAS, I'M ON A PRIVATE CALL. I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE.
IS IT EVEN STRUCTURALLY SAFE TO BE IN HERE?

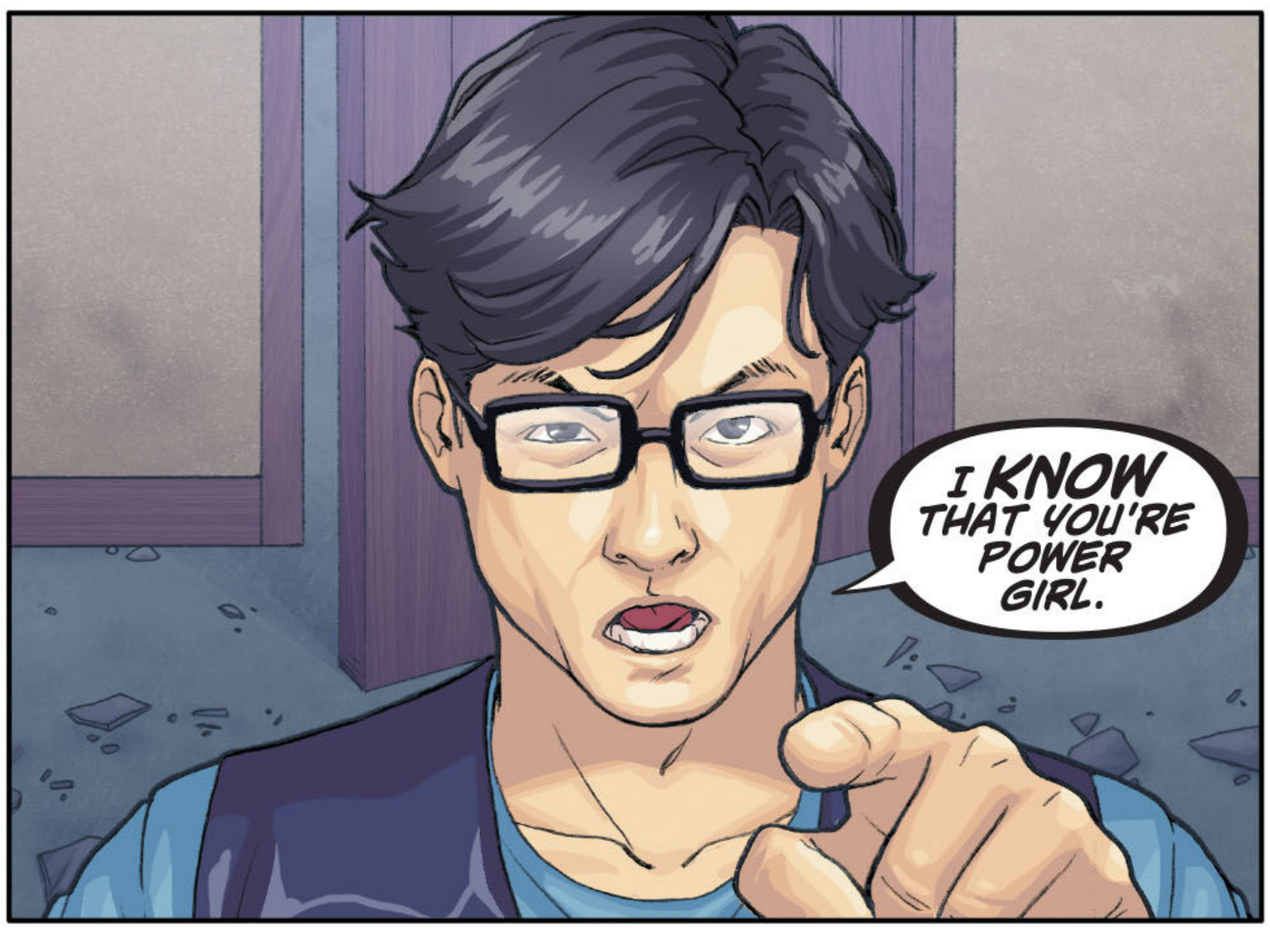
WELL, I GUESS IT IS... FOR YOU.
SORRY?


I'M NOT AN IDIOT Y'KNOW?
FAR FROM IT, REALLY. I'M A GENIUS.
I USUALLY DON'T THROW THAT KIND OF BRAGGING AROUND, BUT I'M PRETTY PEEVED AT THE MOMENT.


Y'KNOW, WITH THE COMPANY I WORK FOR LOSING ALL OF ITS MONEY TO AN EMBEZZLER...
WITH MY FUTURE FORMER EMPLOYER BLACKMAILING ME INTO HACKING GOVERNMENT FACILITIES...


AND THIS SAME EMPLOYER THINKING I'M BRAIN DEAD...
...ME, WITH MY FOUR MASTER'S DEGREES, AND THREE PH.D.'S, AND COMPLETELY UNABLE TO PUT TWO AND TWO TOGETH--

NICHOLAS, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


I KNOW THAT YOU'RE POWER GIRL.

MICHAEL... I'M GONNA HAVE TO CALL YOU BACK.
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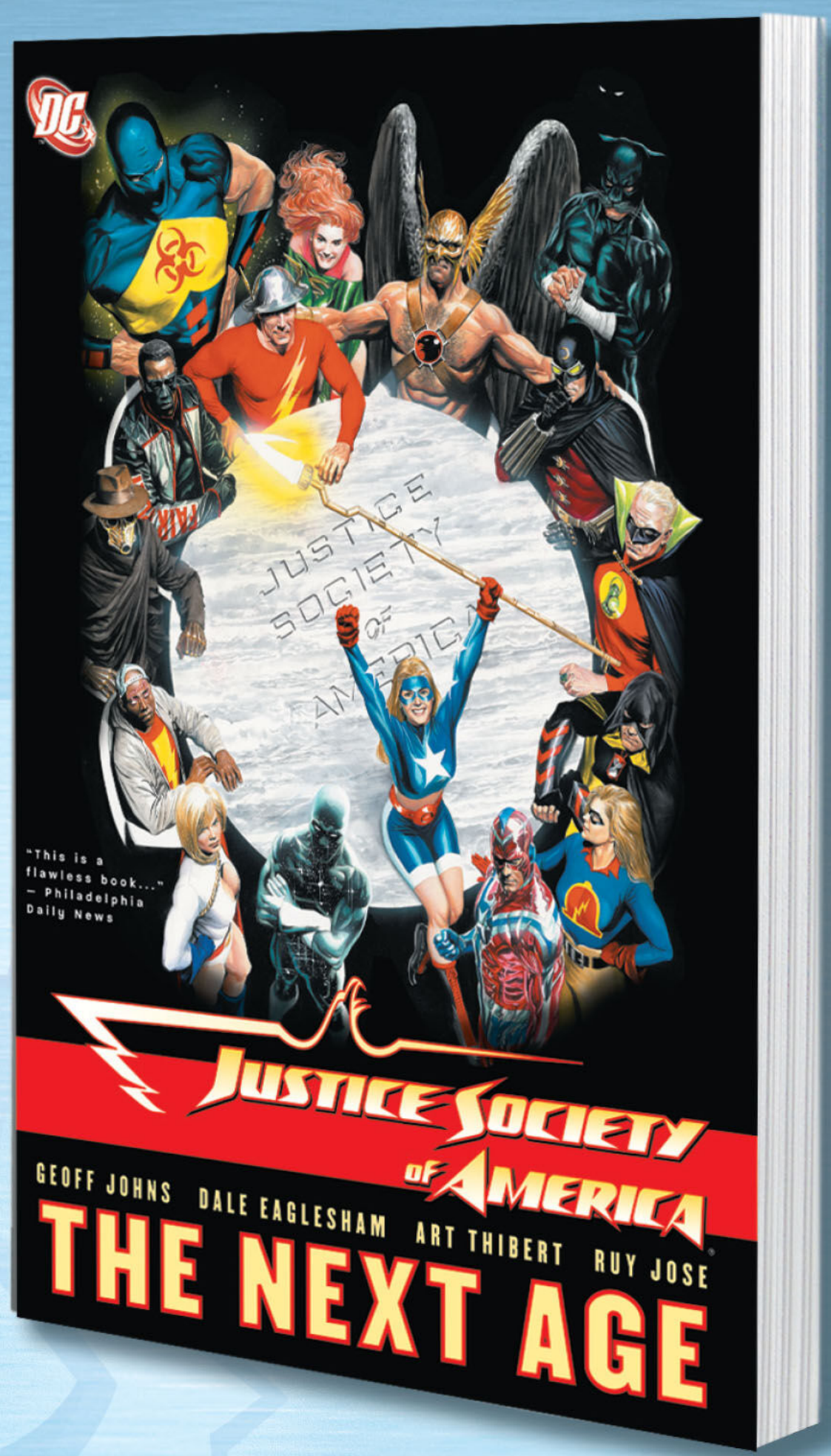

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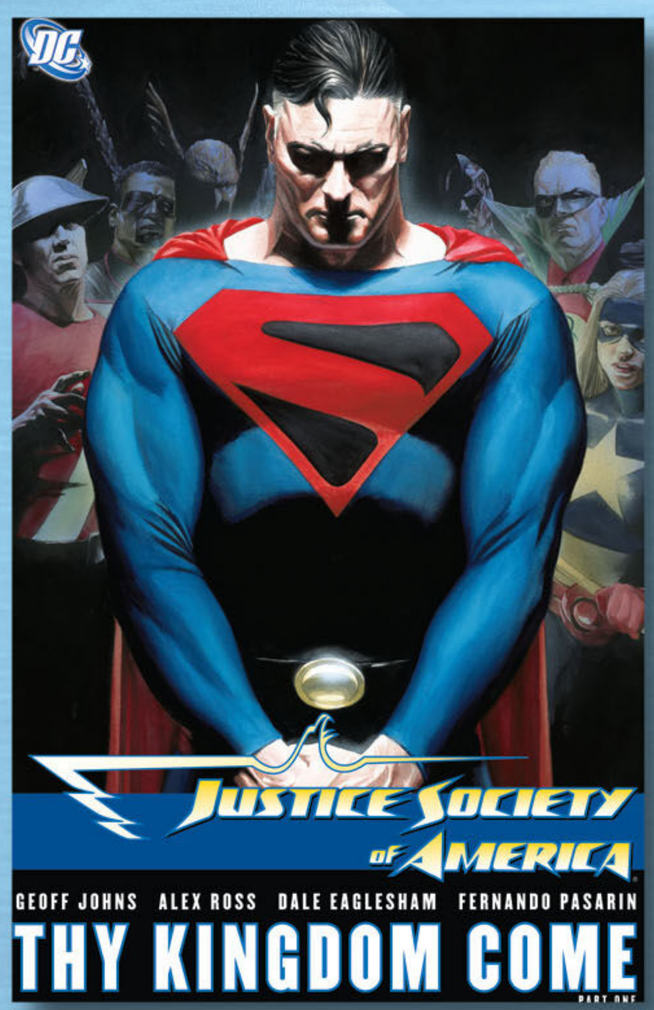
THY KINGDOM COME PART 1



with
DALE EAGLESHAM
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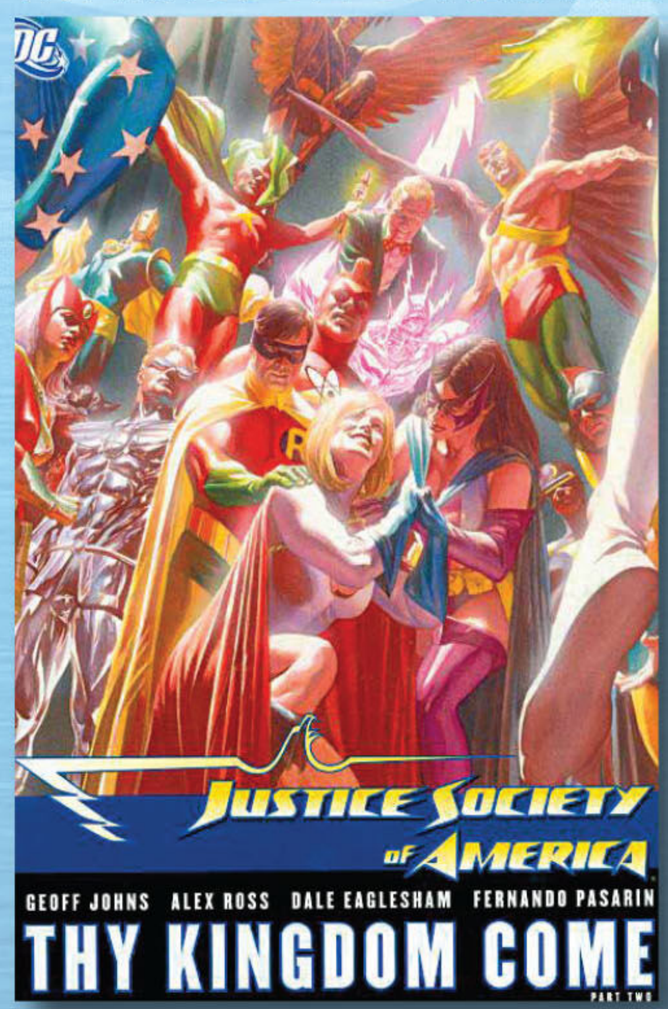
THY KINGDOM COME PART 2



with
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